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THURSDAY, AUGUST 13TH 2009

CASTLELAND HAS A CELEBRATION!

ABOVE:
Eileen Moore, the chairperson of the local community association (left) and Sue Brine, the community centre's new manager (right), are joined by some of the young people who will benefit from the new facilities.

by TIM CHAPMAN

CASTLELAND residents in Barry are celebrating the news that work on a state-of-the-art refurbishment of their community centre is to start later this year thanks to a Big Lottery Grant of £496,000.

The centre, originally built in 1984, will be transformed from a single floor building to a multi-use two floor facility.

Eileen Moore, the chairperson of Castleland Community Association, explained: "We now have the plans ready for the refurbishment and hope the work will start later this year.

"A new reception area will house a lift which will help disabled access.

"The ground floor will also accommodate a suite of offices for the centre manager, neighbourhood police and community groups.

"There will be a community café and redesigned kitchen, an IT suite with a café provision and changing rooms and showers for sports groups.

"The upstairs will house a new sports hall.

"If things go well, we hope to improve the external appearance of the building too.

"It is thanks to local residents that a refurbished community centre is to become a reality."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

Local man dies in air accident

A TRIBUTE has *been paid to paraglider Stephen Paul Allen from Llantwit Major, who died in Shropshire.*

Mr Allen, aged 49, worked at Aberthaw Power Station. A spokesman for RWE npower told The GEM: "We are shocked and saddened by Steve's sudden death. He had worked at Aberthaw Power Station, via an agency since 2005, and was a well respected and popular member of the team."

A Shropshire police spokesman said the emergency services had been called at 2.30pm on Saturday (August 8) after reports of a mid-air paragliding collision near Church Stretton.

An inquest is due to be opened later this week

CAMPAIGN GOES ON FOR BAIL TO PREPARE HIS COURT CASE, BUT...

Flying Vet now ends his hunger strike

THE wife of Vale Flying Vet Maurice Kirk, told The GEM this week that her husband, who had been on a lengthy protest hunger strike, is "now eating normally."

Mrs Kirstie Kirk said she had taken food to her husband at the Caswell Clinic in Bridgend on Tuesday and reported that he was "looking much stronger."

As reported in last week's GEM, Mr Kirk (64), who has physical health problems, had been on a protest hunger strike for over three weeks at Cardiff Prison.

On Friday, he appeared in Cardiff Crown Court. After hearing reports from a psychiatrist, Judge Christopher Llewellyn Jones QC told him: "There is reason to suspect you may be suffering from a mental disorder."

He was remanded to the clinic for 28 days assessment under the Mental Health Act.

Mr Kirk had been remanded in custody at Cardiff Prison since June 25, to await trial on charges of unlawfully possessing a vintage World War 1 firearm (a 1916 Lewis machine gun) and attempting to sell it without authority.

On June 24, he had been released on bail by Barry magistrates, but the prosecution appealed against this at Cardiff Crown Court and he was then remanded in custody at the prison.

Mr Kirk, whose home is at St Donats, has chosen to conduct his own defence to the charges and claims he is being persecuted by the legal system.

As The GEM previously reported, he had gone on protest hunger strike as he wanted to appear personally in court in order to apply for bail, so that he could prepare his case for the hearing scheduled for September 1.

On Monday, Mr Kirk telephoned The GEM offices from the

MAURICE KIRK

Bridgend clinic to reveal that, following a visit by his wife, he had only ended his hunger strike on Saturday (not days earlier as stated by a spokesperson at the Ministry of Justice last week).

He also stated that he had not realised the purpose of Friday's hearing, as he had been under the impression he was going to Cardiff Crown Court to make an application for bail.

GREAT FAMILY FUN AT THE VALE SHOW

THE Vale Show – now just six days away on Wednesday, August 19 – is the complete day out for the family.

There will be all the usual high quality classes for cattle, sheep, horses, hunters, ponies, dogs, home produce and handicrafts that the show is renowned for – but there's so much more.

There will be more than 200 trade stands, a shopping mall, a food hall, a bee-keeping display, vintage machinery and tractors, and special displays from Cardiff Blues Rugby team and Katy Cropper and her dogs and ducks!

For the children, there's a fairground, Punch & Judy, an 'I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here' style challenge, Petwise Zoo, and laser-clay fun.

Some country shows have fallen victim to the weather this year, such as St Mellons, but *NOT* the Vale Show.

General secretary Nicola Gibson said: "We are constantly amazed by the pulling power of the show. It's not just people from the Vale who come, we get people from as far away as north Wales and areas of England."

For your indispensable Vale Show Guide please turn to pages 13,14, 15,16, 17, 18 and 19.

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'Old Hall issue is a matter of health and safety'

AFTER I wrote questioning the safety at Cowbridge's Old Hall, the Vale Council provided a good piece of PR in response.

However, I was referring to overcrowding there, and the fact that the crush would beat any attempt at evacuation.

The hall must have an existing maximum number of people, and I contend that that number was grossly exceeded when I was there.

I also believe that, if the existing capacity is exceeded, it will negate the council's insurance cover.

I speak as a past member of the Master Builders' Federation and take safety very seriously. When I inspected the emergency exit doors and the second stairway, I found that second stairway in a remote far corner of the building.

Two of the three doors mentioned by the council were double locked, and did not appear to have been opened for some time.

What is more, they did not, in my opinion, meet existing regulations.

The statement from the council about access for the disabled was good news.

However, now may be the time to apply for the use of the medical centre which, with some modification, could house events that the Old Hall cannot do in safety.

Gordon Deaves
Cowbridge.

St Athan: it was spelt out in 2006!

WITH regard to the MoD St Athan project, fewer people welcome it now that it is affecting them.

I am sure if some of them had read the draft proposal of March 2006 (later July 2006) they would have seen the impact it will have.

Give or take a few metres, the junction at Boverton is in the same place, the land around the fence has been bought up by the WDA for some years and the site has almost doubled.

The road at the back of Llanmaes was proposed, as was a bus route through the small and ancient hamlet of Picketston, along with the closure of the Eglwys Brewis Road.

The proposed housing at Tremains Farm should have been foreseen as last year's draft showed 550 houses in or near this spot.

The 2006 draft actually says there would be a reduction in noise and speaks nothing of a firing range.

Anyone who thinks life will be enhanced by this college has not taken the time to read the latest proposals, nor those previous.

Firing taking place all day except Sundays will say goodbye to tourism in a few years, as even now firing can be heard in Cowbridge,

Finally, can I say that Metrix are only putting on site what the MoD and WAD have asked for; any reservations should be directed to them.

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Readers' Letters

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'Planners should challenge speculative aerospace plans'

Ann Barnaby's letter (The GEM, July 30) arguing for the St Athan developments to be confined "within the wire", is an option that the planners should be considering.

The aerospace business expansion has poor and unproven prospects, but more importantly, the WAG policy is to achieve a low-carbon economy and lifestyle.

Let's remember that the aerospace business park started as a WDA venture, to replace jobs servicing the RAF base and make use of the St Athan airfield assets.

When they secured the Red Dragon project with the Defence Aviation Repair Agency (DARA), we were told the £77m high-tech aircraft repair and maintenance centre would be the basis for a world-class aviation centre with 2000 jobs. It failed to attract other aerospace companies then, in the heyday of aerospace expansion.

Now, without the DARA anchor project, with aerospace retrenching in the recession, it's looking decidedly dodgy.

When challenged, the WAG officials still defend the 2,000 jobs figure – but say "up to 2,000" – to be reached in the mid-2020s.

Their only study is a skimpy three-page document of quotes from the aerospace industry, saying as a sector it enjoys "long-term stability and growth". No low-carbon transformation there!

So the Vale's planners need to challenge the speculative aerospace plans. Without DARA, there's no basis for a 'centre of excellence'.

If aircraft engine maintenance and testing is moved elsewhere, to take the noise disturbance away from homes, DTC housing for trainees or staff can be built near the West Camp entrance.

Let's see the Vale planners use the requirements under environmental impact assessment for applicants to include information on alternatives to their preferred choice, to demand that WAG consider a plan that scales down the speculative long-term aerospace dreams and allows space for the DTC entirely within the existing site.

Keith Stockdale,
(Barry & Vale Foe co-ordinator)

'Contempt for public opinion'

I WRITE in response to the article in The GEM referring to the Vale Labour Party's decision to only allow a woman to stand for parliament at the next general election.

I find this yet another example of the present Labour Party's arrogance and contempt for public opinion. I would have thought their decision is contrary to the European Court for Human Rights (for which I am no great supporter) and the law on equal opportunities.

While I have absolutely nothing against a woman standing for election, she should be the best person for the job after considering all comers, male and female.

Your reader J Evans, whose letter was published, put an interesting slant on the decision in that being a woman she considered it "insulting and patronising".

K Ewington, Barry **(SEE PAGE 6)**

Why won't Wales get in on the (Sustainable Communities) Act?

JANE HUTT AM commented in this newspaper last week on the Welsh Assembly Government's commitment to a Sustainable Wales – a laudable commitment.

But why, in that case, do they shy away from the Sustainable Communities Act 2007?

The Act became law in England in 2007, although the government there made the rules such that councils have to request the right to use the Act.

In other words, the Act allows councils, that don't wish it to apply to them, to opt out by not opting in – if you get my meaning.

So an Act was passed into law in England that the government was not committed to. Why?

This Act does not apply in Wales, but it could do if we wanted it to. So why on earth don't we want it?

I have asked this question of WAG a couple of times, and the answer has been the same both times –'We already have these powers in Wales. We don't need this Act.'

Those statements, however, are untrue. The powers referred to by WAG are top-down. The Sustainable Communities Act, on the other hand, is bottom-up.

WAG's powers mean that central or local officials make the decisions. The SCA is about local communities taking part in the decision-making.

Do you see the difference? It would mean that we are not just consulted about proposals, but we have a meaningful say in them.

And, let's be honest; consultation by government and councils usually means them telling us what they intend doing – the decisions have already been made.

Under the SCA, there is a legal duty on government to "reach agreement".

There is much more to this, than I can describe in this letter, but I believe it has shown that the powers the SCA would give us do not exist in current Welsh legislation.

If WAG ministers really intend working towards a Sustainable Wales, then they should give us the Sustainable Communities Act in Wales – and stop inventing reasons why not.

Alex Marshall,
Pen-y-Fai

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL AUGUST 20)

The high tides listed in The GEM are those in Barry. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Porthcawl, the high point will be 15– 20 minutes earlier.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
13 Thur	11.58	13.0		
14 Fri	00.21	12.6	12.44	12.4
15 Sat	01.08	12.1	13.49	11.9
16 Sun	02.37	11.8	15.26	12.0
17 Mon	04.07	12.2	16.49	12.9
18 Tues	05.28	13.0	18.02	13.7
19 Wed	06.40	13.9	19.01	14.5
20 Thur	07.38	14.7	19.53	15.1

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National Drugs Helpline **0800 776600**
DASH **01656 650686**
SSAFA – Forces Help for serving and ex-service men, women and families **01656 785435**
RAF Association Welfare Officer 01495 249522/01446 740522
SAMARITANS (emotional support) **01656 662333**
VALE WOMEN'S AID 01446 744755
MENTAL DISTRESS
(Mental Health Matters) **01656 767045**
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RSPCA 0300 123 0744. MIND 01446 746191.
AIDS helplines 0800 567123.
Child abuse – NSPCC 0800 800500.
Alcoholics Anonymous – (24 hours) 0845 7697555.
Drug Aid (24 hours) 02920 881000.
Inroads Drugs Project – 42, Holton Road, Barry. 01446 404040.
Vale Victim & Witness Support -
Barry Magistrates Court, Thompson Street, Barry CF63 4SX. 01446 730704.

MP & AM's SURGERY TIMES

To make a surgery appointment with John Smith MP, contact the constituency office (01446) 743769. Office hours are 9am-5pm. Answerphone service outside office hours.

To make a surgery appointment with Jane Hutt AM, contact the constituency office (01446) 740981. Office hours are 9am-5pm. Answerphone service outside office hours.

Citizens Advice: At 119 Broad Street, Barry. Office opening times vary throughout the week.Telephone 0845 120 3756 between 10am and noon for details). Further information on www.adviceguide.org.uk

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Police - Gladstone Road, Barry; for normal service 01446 734451; in emergency 999. Fire - South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, Pontyclun 01443 232000; in emergency 999. Coastguard - Regional Office, Swansea 01792 366534; in emergency 999.
Gas - Gas emergency number 0800 111999.
Electricity - Emergency 0800 0520400; Water - Emergency 0800 052 0130; supply 0800 0520130.
Trading Standards Consumer Advice Centre - Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry; hours of opening for telephone enquiries - Monday to Thursday, 8.30am-5pm; Friday 8.30am-4.30pm on 01446 709105. For personal visits, Monday to Thursday 9am-4.30pm. Friday 9am-4pm. Recycling Hotline - 02920 673000.
To report a fly tipping incident - 02920 673000.

HOSPITALS

The Barry Hospital - visiting 2pm-8pm each day, 01446 704000. Llandough - Wards have individual visiting times. For details call 029 2071 1711. Princess of Wales - 01656 752752/668090.
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'WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE'

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

The plans, which were drawn up by architects Arden Kitt Associates Ltd will also include new stairwells at either end of the building.

Sue Brine, the newly appointed centre manager, said it was the dawn of a new era for the community centre."This is fantastic news for all the user groups – it will bring people even closer together in what is a focal point for the community.

"We want to provide even more experiences that people might not otherwise have the opportunity to take part in."

Among the numerous activities that will take place at Castleland Community Centre are sports, mother and toddler groups, IT sessions, a young adults club, dance, cheerleading, training sessions – apart from its most important role, being a meeting place for local people.

The centre already runs many of these activities and people attend from all over Barry.

A portion of the money from the grant will also go to completing a sensory garden just a few feet away from the community centre.

Vale AM Jane Hutt, who has taken a long-term interest in developments at Castleland, told The GEM: "I had two opportunities to congratulate Castleland Community Association last week.

"I invited the residents to the Senedd, and later in the week attended the celebration at the Castleland Community Centre where the Big Lottery cheque for the redevelopment of the centre was presented to the children in the Thompson Street Estate.

"As patron of the garden, which will also benefit from the Big Lottery Grant, I am delighted to see the lottery funding these community initiatives!"

Castleland councillor Chris Elmore said: "The redevelopment of the community centre is a key part of regenerating the whole of Castleland Ward.

"I know that the centre's redevelopment will mean better facilities for the many current users of the centre and I hope it will encourage new people to come and use the centre.

"My congratulations go to the residents, users and committee members who have worked so hard to ensure that the money was awarded for the centre's redevelopment."

***LEFT:** People from Castleland and the other areas of Barry gathered to celebrate the news that work will begin on a refurbishment of the community centre later this year.*

Barry man on murder charge

A MAN from Barry appeared before Vale Magistrates last Friday (August 7) charged with murder.

John Chivers, aged 30, of Cardiff Road, Barry, was charged with killing Paul Jones, aged 41, at Columbus Close in Barry on August 3.

The magistrates have committed him for a trial at Cardiff Crown Court, with a preliminary hearing set for August 17.

TRIBUTE

A moving family tribute has been paid to Mr Paul Jones, with his mum Maria saying: "Paul was loving, generous and funny, with a heart of gold.

"He would help anybody, was always making people laugh, and I will miss our daily chats.

"He was a proud father who loved his children dearly.

"He was much loved by all his family and friends.

"He will be sadly missed and never forgotten."

Police are still appealing to anyone who was in the vicinity of Columbus Close at around 10pm on Monday, August 3, or anyone with information to contact them, at the Major Crime Incident Room in Penarth on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

***BELOW:** A tribute has been paid to Paul Jones by his mother after he died in an incident in Barry on August 3.*

Church windfall

VALE AM Jane Hutt, has welcomed the £97k windfall from Regeneration Minister, Leighton Andrews, for Holy Trinity Church in Barry.

She said: "Holy Trinity Church has worked hard to raise the funds needed to refurbish and modernise the church and community facilities.

"I am delighted with their successful grant application news of £97,000 from the Community Facilities and Activities Programme of the Welsh Assembly Government."

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Lamb Tikka £2.60
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SUMMER FAIR AT ALL SAINTS PRIMARY

ALL Saints Church-in-Wales Primary School held its summer fair on a Friday afternoon near the end of term.

There were lots of exciting stalls, attractions and, between the showers, plenty of outdoor fun, from football to face painting (and a real fire engine).

There were also live owls and stuffed toys, lucky dips and plenty of tasty refreshments.

The year-6 pupils organised and ran their own stalls as part of their business studies and they were, as usual, very successful in boosting the takings.

Award-winning entertainer and magician Jasper Blakeley once again contributed to the fun; this time with a basketball game.

The school's dedicated Parents and Friends Association was warmly thanked by headteacher Richard Ware for another fun-packed fundraising event which put everyone in the mood for the summer holiday.

The firemen were on hand to show off their fire engine.

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Barry Athletic bowlers find Ely Valley in peerless form

by CLIVE PHILLIPS

LEADERS Barry Athletic took a heavy tumble in their PG1 fixture at Ely Valley on Saturday, and were comprehensively beaten by the in-form home club.

Ely Valley, semi-finalists in the prestigious Carruthers Shield competition, collected 12 points from the Athletic, winning on three rinks with an impressive 94-66 match score.

Skip Dean Rees earned Barry's solitary win with a 21-16 victory in a rink that featured some sparkling bowling by the consistent Geoff Whittaker at No 3.

Skip Robert Horgan, a qualifier in the singles and fours at the All-Wales Bowling Finals at Llandrindod later this month, looked comfortable on his rink having built up a 15-3 lead after 10 ends.

But the Valley foursome rallied and a tremendous run earned them 16 shots, which eventually clinched a one-shot win.

Chris Blake's rink crashed 11-32 and Glyn Thomas went down 15-26.

The Athletic's PG2 side, again below full strength, were beaten 80-84 by Llanbradach at the Island and picked up just three points.

Ivor Stevenson maintained his winning sequence, skipping his rink to a 23-16 win. His third, Graham Thomas, impressed at No 3.

Skip Dave Newman's rink of Reg Gillham, Derek Coombs and Alf Pidduck, battled to gain a point in a 19-19 tie.

Scores: PG1 v Ely Valley – D Snelling, M Eskins, J Donovan, C Blake 11, D Howells, R Howells, G Eskins, C Ashman 32.

D Evans, M Vaughan, G Whittaker, D Rees 21, M Quinn, D Phillips, A Applegate, J Applegate 16.

S McKernan, JR Evans, DK Williams, G Thomas 15, R Kidner, D Tapling, M Harrison, M Porros 26.

W Summerell, J Beanland, K Harris, R Horgan 19, A Margery, M Saunders, I Buckley, P jones 20.

PG2 v Llanbradach – J Jupp, J Morton, G Nicholls, G Humphreys 21, G Price, J Jones, G Brown, M Davies 26.

A Thomas, E Eskins, E Booker, A Mintern 17, A Soos, A Soos, N Hurn, J Springs, B Bellamy 23.

C Phillips, R Glaves, G Thomas, I Stevenson 23, R Davies, C Williams, A Roberts, V Hughes 16.

R Gillham, D Coombs, A Pidduck, D Newman 19, R Butler, M Metters, N Lewis, R Young 19.

Canon Adrian takes over the reins at All Saints

ALL Saints' Church, Park Road, Barry, was recently filled to capacity as parishioners, visiting clergy and guests celebrated the installation of Canon Adrian Charles Berry as the new rector.

The preacher was Dr Barry Morgan, Archbishop of Wales.

He referred to the parish mission statement and how we can all respond to God's calling, not only as individuals, but also by pulling together and moving forward as a parish.

Church wardens Mr Geoff Cule and Captain David Fulwood presented Canon Adrian to the Archbishop; Mr Arthur Evans read the lesson, while Mrs Sylvia Crabb read the intercessions she herself had written for the service.

Parishioners Liz Matthews, Judy Bartlett, Anita Hop, Bernard Honeysett and Rachel Johnson presented various symbols of the Christian pastoral and liturgical ministry to Canon Adrian.

Assistant Curate, Rev Julie Baker, read the gospel from St Luke.

Canon Adrian Berry praised all in the parish who had worked so hard during the interregnum and everyone who had come to the service.

The evening concluded with a buffet reception in the church hall after the service, giving everyone the opportunity to meet Canon Adrian and his wife Lee, the Archbishop and visiting clergy.

JILL OSBORNE

PLAT NASUWT CYMRU WELSH SCHOOLS UNDER-14 AND UNDER-16 TRACK & FIELD CUP FINAL

LOCAL YOUNG ATHLETES ARE IN GOOD FORM AT BRECON JUNIOR CUP FINAL

Report by PETER MORRIS
Pictures by IAN DIXON

WITH three Vale teams qualifying for the four Cardiff & the Vale District places at the NASUWT Cymru Welsh Schools under-14 (years-7 and 8) and under-16 (year-9 and 10) Cup Final in Brecon, hopes were high for possible success.

For the secondary schools in Wales, this is the highlight of the summer term with eight teams, one from each of the districts, competing in each of the four sections.

It was first held in 1988 and, in its 21 stagings, Vale schools have won on 10 occasions. The most recent success came in 2007 when Bro Morgannwg created history by winning three of the four sections – both under-14 competitions and the under-16 girls.

To win at this fixture, it helps if you have outstanding individuals, but it is also possible to win by placing team members consistently in the top three places. Sadly, all three Vale squads lacked that consistency.

In the under-16 boys' competition, Bro Morgannwg had two individual winners – the much-improved James Glaves in the 80 metres hurdles and Sam Norman in the shot.

However, the lack of quality sprinters left the door open for old rivals Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni, and the valleys school made the most of the opportunity to take its 10th title at this fixture, with a winning margin of 12 points.

That second place for Bro Morgannwg was followed by a similar position for the inexperienced Llantwit under-14 girls' team, all of whom were making their debut at the competition though, for a number of the middle distance girls, the surroundings were familiar as they won the cross-country cup at the same venue in November 2007.

Llantwit also had two individual winners – Cardiff & the Vale Schools under-15 champion Lucy Tarrant taking the 800, and Megan Osborne heading the 1,500 field – but weaknesses in the sprints and jumps proved to be the turning point, with the girls from Tre-Gib in Dyfed producing a high quality effort to claim the Llandeilo school's first-ever win at this competition.

With star sprinter/long jumper Shanelle Edwards not able to compete, Bro Morgannwg had to field a much changed under-16 girls' team and, with lady luck not smiling on them on the day, they struggled.

Year-9 sprinter Maisie Matthews was the top performer, finishing second in the 200 metres, as the school finished seventh on 37 points behind the total of 60, which proved enough for Porthcawl to emulate Tre-Gib and claim a first-ever Cup victory.

At this fixture, there are team trophies for the winners but no place medals. Instead, all the athletes returned home with a participation medal, and both NASUWT Cymru and the Welsh Schools Athletic Association hope that a combination of good weather and a wonderful competition will inspire all the pupils who took part to look ahead to next year and, hopefully, run faster, leap higher and jump further in the 2010 competitions.

Megan Osborne (Llantwit 7) trails Olivia Gwynn (Bishopston 88) in the early stages of the under-14 1,500 metres.

Zoe Stevens (Bro Morgannwg) third in the 75m hurdles.

Vale results

Under-16 boys (all Bro Morgannwg) – 100 (+2.8): 7 Zac Deere 12.2; 200 (+3.6): 6 Wesley Burns 25.1; 300: 3 Emyr George 39.8; 800: 3 Richard Pilcher 2:12.1; 1,500: 4 Rory Heslop 4:43.8; 80H (+1.7): 1 James Glaves 12.1; HJ: **2** James Glaves 1.60; LJ: 8 Wesley Burns 4.41; TJ: 2 Zac Deere 11.11; SP: 1 Sam Norman 12.38; DT: 2 Tom Perry 32.21; JT: 3 Tiernan Scott 41.56; 4x100: 3 Bro Morgannwg 48.8.

Team: 1 Cwm Rhymni 86; 2 Bro Morgannwg 74.

Under-16 girls (all Bro Morgannwg) – 100 (+4.5): 7 Danielle Edgerton 14.6; 200 (+3.2): 2 Maisie Matthews 27.3; 800: 5 Lisa Williams 2:57.7; 1,500: No finisher; 75H (+2.7): 3 Zoe Stevens 13.2; HJ: 4 Megan Thomas 1.35; LJ: 8 Zoe Stevens 3.96; SP: 6 Lia Thomas 6.88; DT: 3 Lisa Williams 21.15; JT: Fern Mason NT; 4 x100: 6 Bro Morgannwg 56.6.

Team: 7 Bro Morgannwg 37.

Under-14 girls (all Llantwit) – 100 (+4.0): 6 Lantianna Darter 14.4; 200: (+2.5): 5 Aimee Price 30.3; 800: 1 Lucy Tarrant 2:33.6; 1,500: 1 Megan Osborne 5:22.5; 70H: (+2.5): 2 Amie Parsons 12.6; HJ: 6= Jocelyn Tait Hughes 1.25; LJ: 8 Olivia Holt 3.57; SP: 2 Ellen Pitt 8.26; DT: 3 Elizabeth Davies 16.89; JT: 2 Danielle Dakin Weston 22.95; 4x100: 6 Llantwit Major 58.1.

Team: 1 Tre-Gib 67; 2 Llantwit Major 58.5.

Bonvilston resident James Glaves (Bro Morgannwg) on his way to victory in the under-16 metres hurdles.

Lucy Tarrant (Llantwit 7) battles it out with Sioned Jones (Tre-Gib 2) in the under-14 800 metres.

Vale AM sees how new 'pyramid' school clubs are helping children

VALE AM Jane Hutt joined children and volunteers from Llantwit Major schools to celebrate the success of the Pyramid clubs, run over the past year in Eagleswell, St Illtyd and Llanilltud Fawr schools.

Run by volunteers and coordinated by the community focused schools manager, this pilot project has made a difference to 39 children over the past year.

Organsers say that the schools have been delighted with the clubs, which give children improved confidence and new friends through fun activities.

Pyramid is supported by ContinYou Cymru and is a national initiative working across Wales.

ABOVE: Jane Hutt AM talks to some of the children.

Lynne Osborne, the community focused schools manager, said: "Our childhood experiences can have a huge impact on our lives. The ethos of these clubs is to provide a safe and encouraging environment for children to succeed, interact and feel good about themselves.

"How they feel affects their wellbeing and their achievements both in school and at home. This is a 'win win' situation for schools, parents and children; it also provides unique opportunities for volunteers of all ages.

"The success of this pilot has highlighted the impact positive experiences can have for children, and our steering group would love to see many more children in the Vale benefiting from Pyramid Clubs."

For more information contact Lynne at osbornel@llantwitschool.org.uk or Carol Maher on 02920 350600.

Rhoose Brownies take up the anti-bullying challenge

THE 1st Rhoose Brownies recently took up the KIDSCAPE anti-bullying challenge – 'Say NO to Bullying and YES to friendship'.

Besides friendship bracelets and posters, the Brownies decided to make a 'Friendship Tree' and to collect paper hands of friendship from friends and family to hang on it.

They then decided to extend the friendship circle to other Brownie packs and schools.

So far, they have collected 198 hands with more coming in weekly.

Eventually, we hope to join all the 'hands' together to see how far through the village they will stretch.

Paper hands can still be sent to the Brownie pack, c/o Rhws Primary School, Fontygary Road, Rhoose.

TAWNY OWL
(1st Rhoose Brownies)

The Brownies with their poster and tree.

Valeways walks

PORTHKERRY and The Knap Millennium Trail, Sunday, August 16. Start at 2.30pm, from car park at the bottom of hill into Porthkerry Park, Barry.

Around Ogmore Down, Monday, August 17, 7pm. Meet at Fox & Hounds/village store car park, St Brides Major.

Women's Aid jumble sale

THE Vale of Glamorgan Women's Aid will be holding a fundraising jumble sale on August 22 at St Mary's Church, Holton Road, Barry, at 12noon.

Various stalls and refreshments; all welcome.

Blood donors

THE Welsh Blood Service has renewed its appeal for donors, particularly during the summer holidays, as blood stocks are low.

It can be contacted on 01443 622189.

Donor sessions: August 25-26, Llantwit Major Youth Centre, Station Road, Llantwit Major; August 27, Old School, South Road, Sully; August 28, Brackla Community Centre, The Triangle.

All sessions are at 10am-6pm.

DID THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE LEAN ON LOCAL SELECTION COMMITTEE?

Vale Labour member claims that 'silent majority' is against women-only shortlist

THE Vale of Glamorgan Constituency Labour Party has chosen not to respond to claims made by a party member who claimed that a 'silent majority' of members disagreed with a women only shortlist to choose a candidate to fight the General Election.

The party also declined to comment on a suggestion that the national executive had employed 'bullying tactics' to force the local party to comply.

The GEM is satisfied that the letter came from a genuine party member and it is signed 'A female Labour Party Member'.

The writer insists that despite the selection process, people should still vote Labour "because a Tory Government would spell disaster for all those who are vulnerable in our society, and that includes women".

The GEM sent the local party the text of the letter inviting a response.

The letter reads:

It is with a heavy heart that I write to your paper to oppose the policy that has been forced upon the Vale of Glamorgan Constituency Labour Party to select its next parliamentary candidate from a women only shortlist.

I know that there is a silent majority of local Labour party members who would oppose the imposition of a women-only shortlist for the selection of our candidate to replace John Smith MP.

It is what I can only describe as bullying tactics from the National Executive which forced the local party to succumb to this policy.

The polls indicate that the fight to return a Labour Member of Parliament for the Vale of Glamorgan will be extremely difficult. Our chances of success would have been greater if we had the option of selecting a candidate from all our membership and not just from female members. Our candidate should be the best person, not just the best woman or best man.

The woman who is now selected as the candidate will always feel undermined, knowing that she had to compete against only the women members and our enemies in other parties will know that. I also feel sad for the dedicated Labour men in our party who now know that they are good enough to trudge the streets year in year out, delivering leaflets and knocking on doors, but will never be good enough to stand as an MP!

We all know that political parties should all be striving to have better representation of women in Parliament, but there are better ways of doing this than the unjustness of an all women shortlist.

Civil rights leader Martin Luther King once said: "To fight an injustice with an injustice can only be described as unjust."

May I finish by urging all your readers to vote Labour at the next election because a Tory Government would spell disaster for all those who are vulnerable in our society, and that includes women!

(I feel unable to allow my name and address to be printed because the Labour Party may take action against me for expressing my views on this issue.)

Yours faithfully,
A female Labour Party member.

A Labour Party spokesman said the party would not be making a comment.

ON-LINE POLL

In the past week, The GEM has been running an on-line poll highlighting the question of a women-only shortlist.

The question posed was:

'The Vale of Glamorgan Labour Party has decided to draw up an all women shortlist in choosing the candidate to stand in the next General Election. What do GEM readers feel about this?

We gave four options and the results were as follows:

'I am female and I approve' – 8 per cent.

'I am female and I do not approve' – 22 per cent.

'I am male and I approve' – 10 per cent.

'I am male and I do not approve' – 60 per cent.

(Percentages are rounded to the nearest full per cent)

Tributes paid to Fflur – 'a unique, wonderful and warm personality'

PUPILS at Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg in Barry left numerous wreaths and tributes at the school to their popular teacher Fflur Bedwyr, who was killed in a road traffic accident in Cardiff on August 4.

She was described as "a wonderful warm personality". The school gates became a temporary memorial to Fflur, aged 34, who was a religious studies teacher at the Welsh-medium comprehensive school.

Dylan Jones, head teacher at Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg, said: "This is a great loss.

"Miss Bedwyr was a teacher who believed in education in the widest sense and was dedicated to the children and supporting them with their work.

"She had a wonderful, warm personality and was highly regarded by staff, pupils and parents.

"She made an immeasurable contribution to both the school and the pupils' development, and was one of the mainstays of the school. She will be greatly missed by all."

Bryan Jeffreys, director of learning and development for the Vale Council, said: "We extend our deepest sympathies to Fflur's family and friends.

"Fflur was held in the highest regard by all at Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg, where her commitment and enthusiasm made a tremendous contribution to the work of the school."

Outside teaching, Fflur had many hobbies which included touch-rugby, skiing, running marathons, and travelling around the world.

There were heartfelt tributes in English and Welsh on Facebook.

Jo Ferriday wrote: *"A lovely person, who would always greet you with a smile and make you feel at ease! She would say lovely things about her pupils, never negative, they were lucky to have her. A one off! Only the good die young – never a truer word spoken."*

Debbie Newton said: "*Dearest Fflur, our unique girl. The mark you left on our lives can never be erased. There will only be one Fflur. God bless, darling*."

The police are appealing to people who may have witnessed the incident.

A spokeswoman told The GEM: "The collision occurred at approximately 2.53pm on Castle Street, in the vicinity of the City Temple where Fflur, as a pedestrian, was in collision with a number 17 Cardiff Bus.

"The bus was travelling from the St Davids area to Ely.

"We are appealing to anyone who was on the bus, or witnessed the incident, to contact the Eastern Roads Policing Unit on 02920 571 600, or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111."

ABOVE: Hundreds of pupils brought tributes to the gates of Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg in memory of popular teacher Fflur Bedwyr (pictured right).

Barrivale Club news

THE latest results from Barrivale are as follows:

Tuesday, August 4, Claret Jug and Doughty Bowl – **First** Noelle Bond and Joan Jenkins (who won £20), 64.88 per cent; **second** Huw Thomas and Denis Mottram, 54.76 per cent; **third** Celia Thomas and Helen Jordan, 54.17 per cent.

The Doughty Bowl, presented by Joyce and Morfa Doughty, founder members of the Barrivale club, was won by Celia Thomas and Helen Jordan, the handicap winners.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. For more information, ring 01446 733425.

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ILFRACOMBE
Exmoor Coast
THURSDAY AUG 20 Leave 9am back 7.45pm
SATURDAY AUG 22 Leave 11am back 6pm
SUNDAY AUG 23 Leave 12.15pm back 8pm
THURSDAY AUG 27 Leave 10am back 8.45pm
Day trip to Glorious Devon - see the spectacular Exmoor Coast & visit Ilfracombe £27 On Aug 20 & 27 stay aboard for the afternoon cruise exploring the National Trust Coast of Exmoor £33 **Seniors special fare on weekdays to Ilfracombe £25**

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THURSDAY AUG 20 Leave 9am back 7.45pm
THURSDAY SEPT 3 Leave 10.30am back 9.15pm
Cruise to Clevedon and join the West Somerset Railway. Pick up a timetable on board and enjoy a day aboard the historic steam & diesel locomotives, exploring the countryside and stations along the 20mile railway. Cruise home from Minehead £35

WESTON: VISIT SEA-LIFE
FRIDAY AUG 21 Leave 10am back 9.30pm
Enjoy a trip to the seaside at Weston-Super-Mare £19.95. Include an exciting visit to the fascinating Sea-Life Centre –inclusive fare £25

HOLM ISLANDS CRUISE
FRIDAY AUG 21 Leave 10am back 5.30pm
SATURDAY AUG 29 Leave 12.30pm back 6pm
Visit Clevedon & enjoy a cruise of the Horn Islands £19 SC £17 On **Aug 29 Special Bank Holiday Fares** - Clevedon £15, Holm Islands £19

EVENING CRUISE
FRIDAY AUG 21 Leave 5.30pm back 9.30pm
Enjoy a peaceful evening cruise viewing the Somerset Coast sailing to Weston Bay £15 SC £13

DON'T MISS A GREAT NIGHT OUT ON AN EVENING SHOWBOAT!
SATURDAY AUG 22 Leave 8pm back 11pm
SATURDAY SEPT 5 Leave 7.30pm back 10.30pm
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THURSDAY AUG 27 Leave 10am back 6.45pm
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SUNDAY SEPT 6 Leave 9.45am back 9.30pm
Visit Ilfracombe £27 SC £25 Or view the Exmoor Coast & visit Lundy Island. Explore this enchanting National Trust Island with spectacular views, seabeds, Church of St. Helena & Marisco Tavern - Inclusive fare £39.95 Or enjoy a trip aboard the Lynton & Barnstaple narrow gauge Railway in North Devon & visit Lynmouth – inclusive fare £39

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FRIDAY AUG 28 Leave 10.15am back 9.30pm
A wonderful family day out! Sail to Ilfracombe to visit a Castle & theme park amid spectacular scenery of Devon Coast. See Magnificent Gardens: Bumper Boats: Rides & Adventure Land: Dungeons: Gnome Land: All-our-Yesterdays Museum. Inclusive fare (no extras to pay) for your great day is only £31

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YOUNG VALE ATHLETES ARE IN GOOD FORM IN B FINAL

Report by PETER MORRIS

AFTER the successes of Ysgol Bro Morgannwg, in winning both under-16 sections, and Llantwit, in sharing the under-14 girls' competition with Cardiff High, at the Cardiff & the Vale of Glamorgan Schools' Cup Final A, there were further good performances from Vale schools at the B Cup Final.

The A Cup Final is for the winning schools in each of the four sections at the six preliminary round matches, while the B Cup Final is for second-placed schools.

Both finals were held at Jenner Park, with competing schools able to field two athletes in each individual event.

Close competitions were the order of the day in all four sections.

In the under-16 boys' contest, for pupils in years 9 and 10, Vale schools provided the A winner in eight events.

Year-9 Arran Reid, the Cardiff & Vale Schools under-15 200 metres champion, finished ahead of the field over 200 metres and won the long jump with a leap of 5.20 metres, while his Barry Comprehensive team-mate, year-10 Michael Hamonda, claimed a double in the 80 metres hurdles and javelin.

Cowbridge dominated the two middle distance races with experienced Cardiff & Vale Schools year-10 cross-country representatives Elliot Mears and Oliver Beaman winning the 800 metres and 1,500 respectively.

St Cyres also enjoyed success, with year-10 pupils Duke Durham and Ben Harding taking the 300 metres and shot respectively, and year-9 Matthew Roan clearing 1.60 metres to add victory in this event to his win in the Cardiff & Vale Schools under-15 championships.

Thanks to a solid all-round team performance, **Barry Comprehensive** claimed this title with a score of 183.5, with **Cowbridge** (175) second and **St Cyres** (147) fifth.

The Llantwit under-16 girls finished second behind Llanishen in their preliminary match, but responded here with a very positive set of performances, which included A wins for Natalie Parsons (75 hurdles) and Jess Richards (shot), while year-9 Lucy Taylor was another Cardiff & Vale Schools under-15 champion to win her speciality event, the long jump.

In addition, experienced year-9 Fiona Bray (Cowbridge) won the 1,500 metres and Bryn Hafren gained victories in the 100 metres and javelin, thanks to the efforts of year-10 pupils Ellie Carter and Toyah Newman.

The end result was a win for **Llantwit** with a score of 175, four points ahead of second-placed **Cowbridge,** with **Bryn Hafren** (148) sharing third spot.

Teams from Stanwell narrowly failed to take titles in both under-14 competitions.

Stanwell year-8 Tom Williams was the top Vale performer in the boys contest, winning both the 100 metres and the long jump, as his school (176) finished just one point behind the winning team from Bishop of Llandaff (177).

The Penarth school had three A winners in the girls competition – year-8 pupils Sara Doust and Natalie Gill in the 800 and high jump respectively and year-7 Kate Coker over 1,500 metres – while Bryn Hafren provided both sprint winners, Catrin Cosier in the 100 and Carys Knapman over 200.

The Llanishen girls, beaten by Llantwit in their preliminary, just held off the Stanwell challenge, winning with a score of 166 with Ysgol Gyfun Plasmawr and Stanwell sharing second spot on 163, and Bryn Hafren (147) fourth.

Team winners from this competition will receive their plaque at the Cardiff & the Vale Schools Track & Field presentation evening, which will be held at Cardiff High School on Tuesday, September 8, starting at 7pm.

Vale results – **Under-16 boys:** 100 – A: 2 Brad White (Bar) 12.4; 5 Sam Street (Cow) 12.9; 6 Joe Davies (St Cy) 13.0; 100 – B: 1 Rhys James (Bar) 12.7; 4 Christian Walters (Cow) 13.0; 200 – A: 1 Arran Reid (Bar) 24.6; 3 Jack Laidlaw (Cow) 25.4; 5 Ben White (St Cy) 27.0; 200 – B: 1 Kurt Fackrell (Cow) 26.3; 2 Frank Roe (Bar) 26.4; 6 Tim Glossop (St Cy) 33.0; 300 – A: 1 Duke Durham (St Cy) 40.4; 2 Josh Spence (Bar) 41.4; 4 Dillon Morgan (Cow) 43.2; 300 – B: 2 Connor Doyle (Bar) 43.4; 4 James Griffiths (Cow) 45.2; 800 – A: 1 Elliot Mears (Cow) 2:07.9; 3 Daniel Lewis (St Cy) 2:17.7; 5 Damien Robinson (Bar) 2:22.4; 800 – B: 2 Josh Thomas (Cow) 2:23.5; 4 Dimitri Fallas (St Cy) 2:28.1; 5 Ricky Sansome (Bar) 2:32.2; 1,500 – A: 1 Oliver Beaman (Cow) 4:33.9; 3 Matthew Edwards (Bar) 4:39.4; 5 Sam Middlemiss (St Cy) 5:15.9; 1500 – B: 1 Callam Barrie (Bar) 4:42.0; 3 John Davies (Cow) 4:59.6; 80 Hur – A: 1 Michael Hamonda (Bar) 12.7; 2 Matthew Roan (St Cy) 13.1; 3 James Williams (Cow) 13.2; 80 Hur – B: 1 Ashley Wilson (St Cy) 13.6; 4 Lloyd Jerwood (Cow) 14.4; 5 Josh Albertides (Bar) 14.6; HJ – A: 1 Matthew Roan (St Cy) 1.60; 2 Josh Albertides (Bar) 1.60; 3= Josh Thomas (Cow) 1.50; HJ – B: 2 James Williams (Cow) 1.50; 4= Will Powell (Bar) 1.35; 6 Ashley Wilson (St Cy) 1.30; LJ – A: 1 Arran Reid (Bar) 5.20; 3 Lloyd Jerwood (Cow) 5.06; 4 Duke Durham (St Cy) 5.03; LJ – B: 1 Rhys James (Bar) 4.73; 2 Daniel Lewis (St Cy) 4.52; 3 Christian Walters (Cow) 4.48 SP (4kg) – A: 1 Ben Harding (St Cy) 13.16; 4 Dillon Morgan (Cow) 11.32; 5 Brad White (Bar) 10.93; SP – B: 2 Gus Rees-McPherson (Cow) 10.37; 5 Jacob Adams (Bar) 9.23; DT (1.25kg) – A: 4 Lewys Hopkin (Cow) 24.17; 5 Ricky Sansome (Bar) 23.28; 6 Tim Glossop (St Cy) 15.83; DT – B: James Griffiths (Cow) NT; Jamie Oatan (Bar) NT; JT (600g) – A: 1 Michael Hamonda (Bar) 36.68; 2 Sam Middlemiss (St Cy) 35.32; 4 Sam Roberts (Cow) 32.21; JT – B: 2 Oliver Beaman (Cow) 28.41; 4 Jordan Clarke (Bar) 24.60; 6 Ben White (St Cy) 17.25; 4x100: 3 Barry 49.3; 4 Cowbridge 50.3; 6 St Cyres 51.4.

Team: 1 Barry 183.5; 2 Cowbridge 175; 3 Radyr 174; 4 Llanishen 165; 5 St Cyres 147; 6 Corpus Christi 145.5.

Under-14 boys: 100 – A: 1 Tom Williams (Stan) 12.0; 4 George Griffiths (Cow) 13.6; 100 - B: 3 Harry Dowell-Bennett (Cow) 13.7; 4 Sion Thomas (Stan) 14.5; 200 - A: 4 Matteo Holmes (Stan) 28.4; 5 James Whittingham (Cow) 28.9; 200 – B: 1 Rory Hay (Stan) 28.6; 6 Brad Rosser (Cow) 30.0; 300 - A: 2 Harry Roberts (Stan) 44.5; 5 Rhys Elms (Cow) 46.5; 300 - B: 3 Nick Boudier (Stan) 46.9; 6 George Francis (Cow) 50.2; 800 - A: 2 Chris Brace (Cow) 2:35.9; 3 Jake Bosza (Stan) 2:36.7; 800 - B: 2 Josh Thomas (Cow) 2:36.7; 4 Tomaz Phillips (Stan) 2:46.1; 1,500 - A: 2 Elliot Richards (Stan) 5:17.4; 4 Jason Sami (Cow) 5:34.5; 1500 - B: 2 Jake Morgan (Cow) 5:52.8; 4 Tom Bellingham (Stan) 5:59.5; 75 Hur - A: 2 Harri Thomas (Cow) 13.0; 3 Luke Bowles (Stan) 14.9; 75 Hur - B: 1 Chris Powell (Cow) 13.9; 4 Fraser Hodgkins (Stan) 16.1; HJ - A: 4 Declan Thomas (Cow) 1.30; 5 Luke Bowles (Stan) 1.30; HJ - B: 3 Rhys Elms (Cow) 1.25; 6 Nick Boudier (Stan) 1.20; LJ - A: 1 Tom Williams (Stan) 5.06; 2 George Griffiths (Cow) 4.71; LJ - B: 1 Josh Thomas (Cow) 4.37; 6 Rory Hone (Stan) 3.86 SP (3.25kg) - A: 3 Matthew Allen (Stan) 9.50; 4 Joe Gaughas (Cow) 9.42; SP - B: 1 David Payne (Stan) 9.13; 2 Harry Dowell-Bennett (Cow) 8.26; DT (1kg) - A: 2 Sam Hall (Stan) 21.22; 4 Harry Collier (Cow) 19.26; DT - B: 2 Harry Roberts (Stan) 20.32; 4 Rhys Cogan (Cow) 16.70; JT (400g) - A: 2 Logan Bibb (Cow) 30.57; 3 Matteo Holmes (Stan) 27.54; JT - B: 1 James Whittingham (Cow) 27.51; Fraser Hodgkins (Stan) NT; 4x100: 2 Stanwell 52.4; 5 Cowbridge 54.8.

Team: 1 Bishop of Llandaff 177; 2 Stanwell 176; 3 Cowbridge 174; 4 Whitchurch 173.5.

Under-16 girls: 100 – A: 1 Ellie Carter (Bryn H) 13.6; 2 Lucy Taylor (Lwt) 14.0; 4 Romy Killick (Cow) 14.3; 100 – B: 1 Chalise Ludvigson (Bryn H) 14.3; 3 Bethan Flynn (Lwt) 14.6; 4 Sophie Lloyd (Cow) 14.8; 200 – A: 4 Jessica Hayes (Cow) 30.3; 5 Emma Worrall (Lwt) 30.6; 6 Danielle Close (Bryn H) 33.6; 200 – B: 1 Toyah Newman (Bryn H) 30.3; 3 Megan Davies (Lwt) 30.8; 5 Bethan Moorcraft (Cow) 32.5; 800 – A: 2 Rachel Bradshaw (Cow) 2:51.3; 4 Chelsea Keeling (Lwt) 3:04.3; 6 Katie Mills (Bryn H) 3.10.0; 800 – B: 1 Katie Howson (Cow) 3:02.2; 2 Lauren Westerland (Lwt) 3:07.8; 4 Bethan Thorngate (Bryn H) 3:20.4; 1,500 – A: 1 Fiona Bray (Cow) 5:39.9; 2 Anthea Young (Lwt) 5:41.0; 5 Sarah Herbert (Bryn H) 6:50.6; 1500 – B: 1 Katie Wynne (Cow) 6:07.7; 3 Amy Baldry (Lwt) 6:28.0; 4 Courtney Taylor (Bryn H) 7:04.7; 75 Hur – A: 1 Natalie Parsons (Lwt) 12.9; 2 Molly Williams (Cow) 13.2; 6 Megan Thickpenny (Bryn H) 17.7; 75 Hur – B: 1 Chloe Phillips (Lwt) 13.6; 3 Georgina Jackson (Cow) 15.3; HJ – A: 2 Natalie Parsons (Lwt) 1.40; 4 Becky Thomas (Cow) 1.35; 5 Ellie Carter (Bryn H) 1.35; HJ – B: 1 Emma Worrall (Lwt) 1.35; 2 Molly Llewelyn (Cow) 1.35; 4 Katie Mills (Bryn H) 1.30; LJ – A: 1 Lucy Taylor (Lwt) 4.65; 4 Sarah Herbert (Bryn H) 3.77; 5 Sophie Burrows (Cow) 3.66; LJ – B: 1 Jess Tidley (Cow) 3.64; 2 Chalise Ludvigson (Bryn H) 3.59; 4 Chloe Phillips (Lwt) 3.50; SP (3.25kg) – A: 1 Jess Richards (Lwt) 8.57; 2 Jessica Hayes (Cow) 7.80; 3 Elise Tyler (Bryn H) 6.69; SP - B: 1 Bethan Moorcraft (Cow) 7.38; 2 Megan Thickpenny (Bryn H) 6.21; 3 Lauren Westerland (Lwt) 5.99; DT (1kg) - A: 3 Megan Davies (Lwt) 16.84; 4 Amy Taylor (Cow) 16.44; 6 Bethan Thorngate (Bryn H) 11.95; DT – B: 2 Bethan Flynn (Lwt) 16.34; 3 Lucy Bason (Cow) 12.96; JT (600g) - A: 1 Toyah Newman (Bryn H) 23.85; 3 Georgina Jackson (Cow) 18.04; 4 Danielle Davies (Lwt) 15.03; JT – B: 2 Katie Howson (Cow) 15.89; 3 Hannah Yarr (Bryn H) 15.06; 4 Emily Brookes (Lwt) 14.27; 4x100: 2 Bryn Hafren 56.2; 3 Llantwit Major 56.9; 4 Cowbridge 57.2.

Team: 1 Llantwit Major 175; 2 Cowbridge 171; 3= Bryn Hafren 148.

Under-14 girls: 100 - A: 1 Catrin Cosier (Bryn H) 13.6; 4 Sophie Boyle (Stan) 14.8; 100 - B: 4 Alice Nottingham (Stan) 15.3; 5 Gabby James (Bryn H) 15.9; 200 - A: 1 Carys Knapman (Bryn H) 29.3; 5 Rachel Rourke (Stan) 33.7; 200 - B: 5 Holly Lam (Stan) 36.4; 6 Chloe James (Bryn H) 39.6; 800 - A: 1 Sara Doust (Stan) 2:52.7; 3 Tillie Carter (Bryn H) 2:53.5; 800 - B: 1 Chloe Eva (Stan) 2:59.9; 3 Kanisha Underdown (Bryn H) 3:04.5; 1,500 - A: 1 Kate Coker (Stan) 5:30.1; 2 Rachel Cosier (Bryn H) 5:53.1; 1500 - B: 1 Erin Murray (Stan) 5:52.2; 6 Zoe Hodgkinson (Bryn H) 7:39.1; 70 Hur - A: 5 Jamie Lee Collins (Bryn H) 17.2; 6 Anika Burget (Stan) 17.8; 70 Hur - B: 2 Natalie Gill (Stan) 14.2; 4 Emily Quick (Bryn H) 14.9; HJ - A: 1 Natalie Gill (Stan) 1.30; 2 Catrin Cosier (Bryn H) 1.30; HJ - B: 1 Sophie Boyle (Stan) 1.25; 3 Temeka McCann (Bryn H) 1.20; LJ - A: 2 Carys Knapman (Bryn H) 3.55; 5 Alice Nottingham (Stan) 3.40; LJ - B: 3 Tillie Carter (Bryn H) 3.41; 6 Kate Coker (Stan) 2.52; SP (2.72kg) - A: 2 Bethany Parkhouse (Stan) 7.38; 5 Rachel Cosier (Bryn H) 5.47; SP - B: 1 Holly Lam (Stan) 6.49; 6 Kanisha Underdown (Bryn H) 4.15; DT (0.75kg) - A: 5 Laura Spencer (Bryn H) 11.72; 6 Katie Phillips (Stan) 10.94; DT - B: 5 Chloe James (Bryn H) 10.76; 6 Sara Doust (Stan) 8.68; JT (400g) - A: 3 Erin Murray (Stan) 15.60; 6 Jaime Lee Cummings (Bryn H) 11.27; JT - B: 5 Chloe Eva (Stan) 9.25; 6 Nikita Statham (Bryn H) 8.93; 4x100: 1 Bryn Hafren 57.9; 2 Stanwell 59.8.

Team: 1 Llanishen 166; 2= Stanwell 163; 4 Bryn Hafren 147.

A career change works for Dinas Powys' Elizabeth

A Dinas Powys woman has completed a major career change at the age of 47.

Elizabeth Wedlake.

Elizabeth Wedlake will officially become a newly-qualified teacher, as she looks to set out on the first phase of her career in secondary school as a maths and science teacher.

Before the birth of her third child 11 years ago, Elizabeth had worked in a number of different office roles, including an accounts manager, before becoming a full-time mum.

She then decided to pursue her interest in maths by taking a maths degree at Cardiff University, aged 42. Having completed the second year of her degree, Elizabeth moved to Egypt for two years with her family as a result of her husband's job. It was in Egypt that Elizabeth discovered her passion for teaching.

Elizabeth said: "I began to help out in my children's school, and I quickly realised how much I loved being in the classroom. I then began to help out as a classroom assistant on a regular basis, and realised that teaching was the career for me.

"When I moved back to the UK two years later, I decided to change courses, so rather than complete my maths degree, I enrolled on the undergraduate teacher training course at the University of Wales, Newport."

She continued: "I find it very frustrating when you hear parents saying that they are hopeless at maths, as I think this can really rub off on their kids, who then think that maths is just too difficult and not for them.

"My goal as a new teacher is to make sure that maths isn't seen as a scary subject by my pupils, and that they can start to really enjoy the subject."

Prostate Trust benefits from store's donation

SHOPPERS in Barry can choose which charities the Waitrose store in the town supports.

This year, they voted overwhelmingly to support the Prostate Screening Trust in the latest charity donation made by the store.

The Waitrose store's Community Matters Scheme sees the branch give £1,000 a month, divided between three local good causes.

As a result of the way in which shoppers voted, the Trust has received £530 out of the £1,000 pot.

A cheque for this sum was presented (above) by department manager Barbara Stubbs and community matters co-ordinator Vicky Barree to Derek Mason of the Trust.

Also present was Vale Conservative candidate Alun Cairns, who is a supporter of the Trust.

Mr Mason said: "With this money we will be continuing our campaign to raise public awareness of prostate cancer and the need to get men to have their PSA levels tested, as this is an indicator used to monitor possible prostate cancer.

Coastguard watchers' vigilance is praised

EVEN though the weather was not kind, the number of visitors to the National Coastwatch station at Nell's Point was up on the previous year.

On a recent visit, the Mayor of the Vale, Coun Emlyn Williams praised the station for its professionalism.

The mayor, who was accompanied by Mayoress Joan Williams, was keenly interested in the training members received.

"There are now 38 fully-qualified watchkeepers, who carry out watches seven days a week, 365 days a year," a spokesman explained.

"After thorough training, members are assessed to check that they are up to the standard required to carry out our pledge to keep a visual and listening watch over the area, looking out for anyone in distress."

After advancing to the grade of qualified watchkeeper, they then complete an RYA short wave radio course. This radio licence is required for them to communicate by VHF radio with HM Coastguard at Swansea, and any of the other emergency services.

The funding for these radio courses is raised locally, together with all running costs, either by grants or fundraising events.

"Members of NCI Nell's Point are pleased that the Mayor of the Vale has chosen to support us as one of his chosen charities this year. His other two charities are the Alzheimer's Society and Breastfriends Cardiff & Vale Support Group.

"Watchkeepers have been kept busy during the last few weeks. With the holiday season, many more visitors are using the water and beaches, resulting in increased vigilance by the Auxiliary Coastguard, beach lifeguards and Coastwatch members," the spokesman reported.

A Wenvoe woman's trek with Gurkhas

A VALE woman who works for the youth charity, The Prince's Trust Cymru, was put through her paces by Gurkha Company (Mandalay) in preparation for a sponsored trek in Nepal.

This September, Maria Golightly (age 40, from Wenvoe) hopes to raise funds for The Prince's Trust Cymru by tackling a six-day trek in Nepal with her colleague Jane Davies (age 31, from Cardiff).

To help them prepare for the trek, the Gurkhas, Nepalese soldiers who are part of the British army, have agreed to share their specialist knowledge of the country, and their military fitness and survival expertise with the pair.

As part of the training, Jane and Maria recently completed part of the infamous 'Fan Dance', a 24km military trek over the Pen y Fan in the Brecon Beacons and then back again, traditionally done carrying a 35lb back pack.

The 'Fan Dance' is used on courses run by the Infantry Battle School in Brecon, and is also part of the selection course for the British Special Air Service Regiment.

Maria said: "It was a gruelling couple of hours on the side of a Welsh mountain, and the weather certainly didn't help!

"The Gurkhas were fantastic and really helped us on the day. We also learnt about Nepalese culture, as well as some basic words and phrases, so that was really helpful."

The pair have committed to raising more than £6,000 between them to help support The Prince's Trust Cymru, which runs a range of challenge events each year, raising more than £500,000 annually for their work with disadvantaged young people.

Anyone wishing to sponsor Jane and Maria to help them raise funds for the Prince's Trust Cymru and change young lives in Wales, can visit www.justgiving/com/janeandmaria

Cadoxton lady bowlers notch up two victories

FRIDAY, August 3, saw Barry Athletic join Cadoxton to play in the Evening League.

It was a pleasure to see the ladies at this return match, because the game at Barry Athletic had to be cancelled, due to a waterlogged green.

Rink one: Cadoxton – M Paterson, N Clissett, P Cox, D Davies 12; Barry Athletic – G Kerslake, P Dancy,M Snelling, P Jupp 18.

For the first five ends, Cadoxton believed the match was going their way as the score was 7-1 in their favour.

The next five ends were very much against them when Barry Athletic caught up and the game was 9-all.

Ends 11/13 saw Barry Athletic ladies forge ahead with another six shots, and although Cadoxton recovered on the last ends they were not able to catch up.

Rink two: Cadoxton – J Watkins, N Hitchen, D Evans, M O'Callaghan 25; Barry Athletic – L Gatt, E Stark, M Moore, K Hopkins 6.

Try as they might, Barry Athletic just could not make any great impression on the scoring.

Cadoxton 37, Barry Athletic 24.

The Thursday afternoon league was again played at home when Barry Central were welcomed to Victoria Park.

Rink one: Cadoxton – J Watkins, A Rees, P Davies, M O'Callaghan 14; Barry Central – P Taylor, P Ditchburn, M Farnham, J Thomas 18.

Central scored at a steady pace and were leading all the way. Cadoxton made a good recovery on ends 14/15, but Central took charge and Cadoxton were unable to forge ahead.

Rink two: Cadoxton – P Bryant, J Finn, D Evans, J Tuck 14; Barry Central – J Bullock, R Gwilliam, J Morgan 8¼.

Unfortunately, the Central ladies had to field three players only, and were penalised by losing a quarter of their shots.

The Central ladies played well, winning the first five ends by one shot each. The Cadoxton ladies then bagged 14 shots in ends 7/13.

Recovering, Central ladies won the last five ends, bringing the score to 14-11 minus a quarter.

Rink three: Cadoxton – M Slee, C Bentley, N Clissett, P Cox 22; Central – B Davis T Hawkins, N Charles, P Bowyer 12.

Cadoxton opened strongly and by the eighth end they were 15-4 ahead. Central won the next five ends for five shots, but they were unable to keep it up and Cadoxton went from strength to strength.

Cadoxton 50, Barry Central 38¼.

MRS DM DAVIES

Club mourns the death of member

MEMBERS of Barry Chess Club were recently saddened to hear of the death of Allan St Clair, one of the club's longest standing members.

Allan's membership had been continuous since he joined the club in the 1970s, shortly after its re-formation.

Allan won the Welsh under-18s championship in 1978 since when, a player of no mean ability, he featured regularly in the club's first team.

Apart from his playing strength, Allan was an easy-going, well-liked and popular character who will be greatly missed by all of his fellow members at Barry, and his many friends from other chess clubs in south Wales.

KEVIN GANDY

Barry Beavers disabled swimming club says thanks for sponsorship

ABOVE:
Representatives of Barry Beavers: Mrs Eunice Lamb, club secretary, and Mrs Pat Finch, club coach, accept the T-shirts from the owner of CJ Travel, Mr Chris Mort, who is accompanied by members of staff.

IN July, representatives of Barry Beavers Disabled Swimming Club received a donation from Mr Chris Mort, owner of Barry-based CJ Travel.

The donation took the form of 30 embroidered T-shirts for the Barry Beavers gala and league swim teams.

The T-shirts were supplied by a local firm, Happy Embroidery Ltd from Dinas Powys, and the owner Owen also kindly gave the club some embroidered sweatshirts.

Mrs Eunice Lamb, the club secretary, said: "We are absolutely delighted with the fact that we now have a sponsor for the Barry Beavers Disabled Swimming Club.

"We have tried on numerous occasions to obtain sponsorship, and CJ Travel have come up trumps!"

Barry Wanderers take control for fine 148-run home victory

BARRY Wanderers welcomed Girlings and Croesyceiliog to a sunny Hayes Point.

Dean Thomas and Ed Sherriff got the hosts off to a solid start, putting on 43 for the first wicket off 11 overs before Thomas played on to his stumps and was out for 15.

This brought the explosive Aled Hughes to the crease and he took the attack to the visitors and smashed his way to 26 from four overs.

He looked in particular to knock the impressive leg-spinner Mulroy off his line and he smashed the young bowler over his head twice. However, Mulroy held his nerve and flighted one up that turned and missed Hughes' outside edge. The batsman briefly fell out of his crease, but it was all that was required and he was smartly stumped.

The in-form Barratt was the next man in and after seeing off Mulroy, he and Sherriff stepped up the run-rate. Coming to the crease on 75-2 off 16 overs, Sherriff and Barratt combined big-hitting with some sumptuous strokeplay.

The two men put on a club record third wicket partnership of 198. Barratt ended on 63 not out, and Sherriff helped himself to his maiden league ton, ending on 112 not out.

The Wanderers had scored 272-2 off their allotted 45 and it was looking like a good toss to lose.

Croesyceiliog, to their credit, initially had a go at the target but wickets fell at the other end with Fenton and Mantell bowling beautifully in tandem to destroy the top order. Once Jones had fallen to Fenton, caught wonderfully in the deep by chairman Rob Tucker, Croes were never in it.

All the Wanderers' bowlers chipped in with wickets; Fenton finished with 3 for 24 and Becket had Coleman out bowled for a tidy 31 and Evans for a duck.

These two were the pick of the attack for the hosts but Mantell, Hughes, Barratt and the returning Hassett all chipped in, and once Watkins was the last man to go for 17, the visitors were all out for 124.

It was a truly comprehensive victory for the league leaders and this season is setting up to be a classic, with two from the Wanderers, Bridgend and Monkswood all looking to fill the top two promotion places come the end of August.

The Barry Wanderers SofaSofa man-of-the-match was Ed Sherriff.

AF

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Young opera singers' impressive concert

THE audience at Holy Cross Church, Cowbridge, were on their feet on Friday night at the end of a feast of song from four young singers, surely opera stars of the future.

Vale student Daisy Evans (19) and three of her friends, have just completed the first year of their four-year degree course at London's prestigious Guildhall School of Music.

They are performing a concert in each of their home towns, to help fund their studies.

The youngsters were expertly accompanied by Bryan Davies, off on a Baltic tour with the Pendyrus Male Choir next week.

Bryan gave them the benefit of his expertise, as he thinks it is important to support young performers.

Many of the audience had heard Daisy sing last summer with Mark and Wynne Evans, and were thrilled to see her progress in confidence and presentation.

Daisy showed great composure in dedicating her favourite Welsh song, *Bugeilio'r Gwenith Gwyn*, to her much-loved teacher from Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg, Fflur Bedwyr, who was tragically killed last week.

For many, one of the highlights was Neath tenor Josh's performance of *Una Furtiva Lagrima*. He has a beautiful lyrical Italianate tenor voice.

There was a murmur of anticipation when Bethan introduced *La Habanera* from *Carmen*, which she performed superbly, and many of the audience were convinced by Daisy and Adam's love duet *All I Ask of You*, from *Phantom*.

JE

From left, tenor Joshua Mills, baritone Adam Gilbert, Bryan Davies, soprano Daisy Evans, mezzo Bethan Langford.

Alex (8) is a City mascot

ABOVE: Alex John was a mascot when Cardiff City met Spanish football giants Valencia in a pre season friendly.

WHEN pupils return after their summer holidays and are asked to write an essay about how they spend their time, some may be stumped – not so Alex John, who attends Barry Island Primary School – he was a mascot at the Cardiff City versus Valencia match.

The pre- season friendly match was held at the new Cardiff City stadium.

Alex told The GEM: "I was allowed to warm up with the two squads on the pitch for 20 minutes before the match.

"I got the chance to meet stars like Joe Ledley and Valencia's David Villa.

"Just before the match I walked out of the tunnel with Cardiff midfielder Peter Whittingham, and lined up with the players and officials, as they all shook hands before kicking off."

Alex, aged eight, is also celebrating joining the Vale Football Academy, following a trial a few weeks ago.

The academy accommodates between 12 and 16 players in each age group, and over the last five seasons 26 players from the academy have been offered trials or contracts with professional clubs such as Cardiff, Wolves, West Ham, Blackburn Rovers and Swansea.

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PACT MEETINGS

ILLTYD PACT surgery, CCTV van on High Street, Barry, August 14, between 10am-4pm.

WENVOE coffee and chat, Red Lion, Bonvilston, August 18, 11am.

RHOOSE police surgery, police office adjacent to Stewart Road Community Centre, August 18, between 7pm-8pm.

LLANDOW and EWENNY PACT, Ewenny Village Hall, August 19, 7pm.

CRIME PREVENTION DAY, Victoria Square, Penarth, August 22, 11.30am-3.30pm.

ST AUGUSTINE'S street surgery, August 24, Bradenham Place, Penarth, 3pm-4pm.

STANWELL cuppa with a copper morning at Elfed Avenue Church, August 24, 10.30am-12.30pm.

BUTTRILLS PACT, Alexandra Gardens Community Centre, August 26, 7pm.

If you have any issues that are affecting quality of life, but are unable to attend a meeting, contact your local Neighbourhood Policing or log onto www.ourbobby.com

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Zapcat powerboat racing takes Barry Island by storm

PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

ZAPCAT Racing arrived in Barry over the weekend August 1 - 2.

So what exactly is Zapcat Racing? Well, it's the the world's largest one design powerboat championship, and it attracted dozens of competitors from all over the United Kingdom.

For the people who attended the event at Whitmore Bay, Barry Island there were thrills – the powerboats travel at up to 50mph – and spills, but mercifully no one was injured.

ABOVE: High-speed action from the powerboat racing at Whitmore Bay.

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Southerndown exhibition

AN exhibition by professional artist and Watercolour Society of Wales member, Peter Cronin, takes place at the Heritage Coast Centre, Southerndown, from August 15-22, at 10am-5pm each day. Parking is free for exhibition visitors.

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*Selected lines only, ** Subject to status, details in store. • Images are for illustration only

Special delivery for Llantwit Major postman!

ABOVE: Eileen Bennett presents Nigel Davies with his £20 prize.

THE winner of The GEM's recent competition, 'Who Drives What?' was Llantwit Major postman, Nigel 'Midge' Davies.

By coincidence, when he called at The GEM offices, he received the prize from Eileen Bennett, also a Llantwit Major resident, who knew him only by his nickname.

She was surprised to find that the unfamiliar 'Nigel' turned out to be a very familiar face!

Planners welcome the defence college

BRIDGEND County Borough Council is to raise no objections to the plans for either the Defence Technical College or the Aerospace Business Park at St Athan.

The council was asked for its views by the Vale Council, as it is a neighbouring authority which could be affected by the plans.

Planning officers in Bridgend said that some of the jobs created at both the construction and operating phase could go to Bridgend residents, pumping money into the Bridgend economy.

There are some concerns about increases in traffic along the A48, and its impact on Waterton roundabout.

The council considers that the developer should fund improvements at the roundabout, and also on the link across to Ewenny roundabout. Pressure would be relieved by the construction of the Brocastle link road.

Have a day out with Thomas!

THE popular and classic *Thomas and Friends* series of books will be brought to life with *Thomas*, *Diesel* and *Daisy* entertaining children at the Dean Forest Railway in Lydney on August 21-23.

Young *Thomas* fans can see their favourite characters and travel aboard *Daisy*, as she races the steam train and takes a story-telling trip into the forest to Parkend.

There will also be rides on a miniature steam railway, Punch and Judy, face-painting, a roundabout and the 'Imagination Station' which has Thomas story-telling, DVD screenings, colouring pages and table-top toys.

For more details of this exciting family day out visit www.deanforestrailway.co.uk or telephone 01594 845840.

Can you give lively little Hilda a home?

The GEM has joined forces with the Dogs Trust to find caring new owners for the animals at Bridgend Rehoming Centre
(Telephone 01656 725219)

THIS week the Trust highlights *Hilda*.

Hilda is a seven-year-old terrier (but acts a lot younger than this!). She is a very sweet looking little dog, and is also lively and feisty to go with it! *Hilda* is very playful, and adores her toys, and would love a home where she can have fun playing kick around with a ball.

She can be a little reactive in some situations, so would need an owner who is used to terrier types, and willing to work with her on this. She is not a lap dog, and will need someone to be straight with her and not pander to her.

She is very active, and would like an owner who can keep her occupied. She has a condition called Dry Eye, which means that she needs eye drops applied daily – but Dogs Trust will pay for any medication for this condition.

She is suitable with older children in a family, especially someone who will take her to play football in the park!

All dogs rehomed from Dogs Trust are neutered, microchipped, vaccinated and come with four weeks' free insurance.

For more information on Hilda, or any of the other dogs who are looking for a good home, visit the Dogs Trust Rehoming Centre in Court Colman, Pen-y-Fai, Bridgend, or telephone 01656 725219. Hilda and some of her friends are on the website at www.dogstrust.org.uk, (click on Rehoming).

Hilda.

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TOP OF THE TABLE ONCE AGAIN!

Revenge is sweet for Barry Athletic bowlers at home to Bridgend

BARRY Athletic's first team returned to top of the table form with a splendid 84-64 PG1 victory against Bridgend at Barry Island on Saturday.

The Athletic won on all four rinks to collect a maximum 14 points, to gain sweet revenge, having been beaten at Bridgend earlier in the season.

Highlight of Saturday's success was the gritty fight back by Glyn Thomas's rink.

Trailing 3-17 after 10 ends, Glyn's squad, comprising captain DK Williams, Russell Evans and Steve McKernan, clicked and 12 shots from four consecutive ends put them back in contention.

Their tremendous comeback continued over the final five ends to clinch a dramatic 23-21 win and a clean sweep for Athletic.

Skip Chris Blake's rink began impressively and cruised into a comfortable 13-4 lead after seven ends, but an indifferent spell almost proved disastrous as the visitors improved, and at the 15th mark it was all square 15-15.

However, a confident finale brought nine vital shots, giving the Athletic a 24-17 win.

Dean Rees added another win to his collection, skipping his rink home 21-14 and Robert Horgan came in with a 16-12 scorecard.

The Athletic's PG2 team recorded a fine win against Penarth at Rectory Road, picking up 12 points with an overall 84-65 score.

Skip Albert Mintern was back to winning ways and took top rink honours with a convincing 26-9 win. There were also victories for skips Dave Newman (26-20) and Gareth Humphreys (20-17).

Scores: PG1 v Bridgend

S McKernan, JR Evans, DK Williams, G Thomas 23; C Taylor, A Watkins, D McCormack, P Taylor 21.

D Evans, M Vaughan, D Snelling, D Rees 21; G Phillips, J McCormack, A Brownsell, L Greenslade 14.

C Phillips, M Eskins, JP Donovan, C Blake 24; M Rees, D Stephen, S Taylor, P Turner 17.

W Summerell, J Beanland, K Harris, R Horgan 16; K Frankton, W Thomas, C Stephens, D Parkhouse 12.

PG2 v Penarth – R Gillham, A Pidduck, G Nicholls, G Humphreys 20; D Murphy, B Hocking, D Fowler, L Evans 17.

J Coll, R Glaves, G Thomas, I Stevenson 12; D Holloway, C Mould, B Short, R Mould 19.

C Rossiter, D Coombs, B Turner, D Newman 26; E John, D Shirley, P Davidge, R Maggs 20.

W Webber, P Clarke, E Booker, A Mintern 26; J Whitfield, J Bowen, K Brinkworth, A Beaven 9.

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Out and About with The GEM

LATEST RELEASE 'THE UGLY TRUTH' IS JUST PLAIN UGLY!

HAVING come from nowhere with a turn that defined the term 'intensity' in the gore-splattered *300*, Gerard Butler soon threw away his cool points with the intensely rubbish *PS I Love You*, a schmaltzy concoction that did nothing to enhance Butler's star potential.

Having redeemed himself with a turn in Guy Richie's *Rockn'Rolla*, Butler again goes for a stroll down the romantic comedy path with *The Ugly Truth*.

Butler plays Mike, a morning TV correspondent hired to boost flagging ratings. He immediately forms a love/hate relationship with his producer Abby (Katherine Heigl), but she soon comes running for his advice when she begins dating a doctor.

However, as Mike lets her in on the ugly truth about relationships, and what she has to do to keep him interested, their relationship takes a (wholly expected) turn...

I don't think it's too much to ask from a film like *The Ugly Truth* to be vaguely entertaining to both genders.

The pre-promotion for the film made it appear to be a sparky and witty battle-of-the-sexes comedy that would appeal to both genders. The finished product, however, would barely appeal to a lobotomised chimpanzee, let alone men or women; it is, instead, an affront to notions of feminism and, at a more basic level, just a plainly awful film.

SCREEN TALK

by GARETH JAMIESON

Supposedly it's a comedy for women written by women, three of them in fact. Yet even my profoundly male senses tell me that the women who wrote this film can't be overly keen on their gender sisters, such is the misguided sensibility that pervades every second of this 96-minute (but feeling about three hours long) abomination.

Its attempts at edgy humour by and large fall completely flat, falling into the trap either of being not funny, or so blatantly telegraphed that you can see the punchline coming a mile off.

It also suffers from a lack of sympathetic characters on which the audience are supposed to invest in.

Considering the lead character of Abby is a successful television producer, capable of handling various crises, you would think she would be a rational person outside of work; but oh no, instead she is a neurotic crazy woman who runs background checks on her blind dates and makes a list of conversational topics – and then tells her date. So far, a character that not only defies belief, but one that is thoroughly unrealistic.

When the character of Mike breezes in, not only does she dislike him immensely, but then decides that his unreconstructed views on how to get men interested are exactly what she needs to follow to snare her man.

So, as strong and independent as she appears to be, she's actually a woman who feels the need to play up to the supposed image of what men want rather than be herself – with a character like that, it's no surprise the film plays as poorly as it does.

It doesn't help that the character of Abby is played by Katherine Heigl, an actress who supposedly has the golden touch to be the next Julia Roberts, yet strikes me as being a far colder and less likeable performer.

Given that she produced this mess as well, she deserves double the criticism afforded to her, her performance here failing to engage at all.

She shares zero chemistry with Butler, who at least looks like he's enjoying himself in the role of the alpha male who knows all the answers.

The charismatic Butler is easily the best thing here (along with John Michael Higgins and Cheryl Hines as a husband and wife presenting duo) and gives as good a turn as the material affords him.

Sadly, it's all too perfunctory a performance, the interesting elements to it, such as the relationship with his nephew and the reason why he is so against the concept of love, get squandered by the writers, whose only concern is to follow the traditional romantic comedy staples and conventions.

The film is mundanely directed by Robert Luketic, veteran of various films of this ilk, and who fails to conjure anything interesting out of this woeful piece of work.

Like most films of this genre, its direction is anonymous and lacking in any real flourishes – and much like this film in particular, it's flat, dull and thoroughly predictable.

VERDICT – *The Ugly Truth* is just that – an ugly mess of a film that only sees Gerard Butler emerge with any real credit, and the rest involved come out looking far less credible than they did going in.

Dubious sexual politics aside, there is little that is either romantic or comedic in this disaster of a film. *Avoid at all costs.*

Lions' book sale hopes

PORTHCAWL Lions Club is hoping that book-lovers will be looking for bank holiday reading when they put on a giant charity sale later this month.

More than 5,000 books will be on show in the Seabank Hotel over the bank holiday weekend, August 29, 30, 31, at 10am – 4pm each day.

A Lions club spokesman said: "Admission will be free, and there will be a huge selection of books, so we hope Porthcawl residents and visitors will come along."

Court ward surgery

BARRY Court ward councillors will be holding a street surgery this Saturday (August 15) from 10am-11am, in the Sycamore Crescent area of the ward.

"If you receive a leaflet and wish to raise an issue with your councillors, display the flyer clearly in your window or on your door and they will call at your property," a spokesperson said.

If residents wish to speak to them about any matter, contact Coun Bronwen Brooks on 07525 158391.

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan lottery draw number 578.

● **£2000:** 373648. ● **£500:** 776933. ● **£100:** 791888. ● **£50:** 391219. ● **£10:** 820867, 820227, 237528, 790486, 208729, 563414, 307442, 801340, 759434, 509548, 315483, 118519, 547382, 292479, 103276, 613775, 242186, 538303, 544380, 198919. ● **£5:** 233664, 590399, 343273, 488587, 190251, 801994, 682812, 557279, 553283, 456856, 880753, 235454, 384568, 476980, 268237, 224023, 689531, 254298, 464359, 787086, 377413, 410468, 740294, 403334, 202880, 456302, 654759, 811111, 414158, 892782.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please call telephone 02920 672062.

EXHIBITION BY PROFESSIONAL ARTIST

and Watercolour Society of Wales member Peter Cronin takes place at the Heritage Coast Centre Southerndown from the 15th to the 22nd of August.

The exhibition is open from 10am till 5pm each day and parking is free for exhibition visitors.

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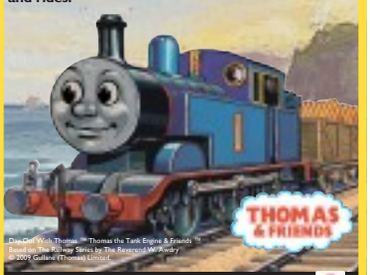

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Special Seven-Page Rural Profile

VALE OF GLAMORGAN AGRICULTURAL SHOW

Wednesday 19th August - FONMON CASTLE PARK

THE PRESIDENT SAYS:

'Welcome to our show'

THE Vale Show president, Mrs Mary Thomas, welcomes everyone to Fonmon Castle Grounds on Wednesday, August 19.

Mary said: "This year's show promises to be a wonderful occasion, with so much to see and do."

Mary has been involved with the show for most of her life and knows what a great place it is for meeting up with old friends and seeing marvellous displays of cattle, sheep, horses, dogs, horticulture, home produce, crafts – and so the list goes on.

The numerous trade stands cover all aspects of country and commercial life, and this year is no exception, with a record stand attendance.

The show is set up by a huge team of volunteers, and Mary would like to express her grateful thanks to all involved and wishes everyone a very enjoyable show day.

ABOVE: Mary Thomas, the Vale Show president.

I'M A CHALLENGER, GET ME OUT OF HERE!

WELL, we are sure you have all seen the TV programme, but at the Vale Show this year, you can actually have a go yourself!

We have invited Sarah Green and her petwise zoo to come along with their snakes, tarantulas, cockroaches and other reptiles and creepy crawlies, to give people the opportunity to see these creatures up close.

Throughout the day, you will be able to stroke a snake or hold a large spider – if you want to!

The 'I'm a Challenger' competitions will be run at several occasions during show day. Each challenge lasts about an hour and competitors will be asked to pay £5 for the pleasure!

Those of a faint disposition should not apply...but if you are big and brave, or even small and brave, have a go! Winners will receive certificates and prizes.

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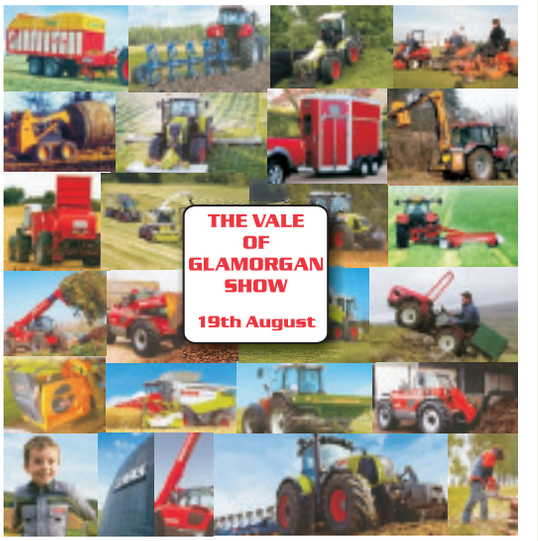

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David Melding AM

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Email: andrewRT.davies@wales.gov.uk Tel: 02920 898523

Email: david.melding@wales.gov.uk Tel: 02920 898732

Special Seven-Page Rural Profile

VALE OF GLAMORGAN AGRICULTURAL SHOW

Wednesday 19th August - FONMON CASTLE PARK

VALE SHOW DAY IS ON COURSE FOR PLENTY OF FAMILY FUN..!

WHAT a great show we have in store for you this year...There are many new and varied stands, now numbering well over 200 and great entries in the livestock, dog and horse classes.

Livestock classes in the paddock begin at 10am and we are delighted to have as many as 14 sheep in some classes, with eight entries in the Limousin beef cattle pairs competition. The livestock classes really do promise to be quite a spectacle and it is well worth coming to the show early to watch them.

Mr and Mrs Griffin, who run the **horticultural marquee**, are delighted that the Firewood Company from Penllyn Estates, Cowbridge, is sponsoring their marquee this year.

The tent will be full of wonderful flowers, fruit and vegetables. There are classes for all gardeners – amateur and professional – and there is still time to enter by telephoning Mrs Griffin on 01446 711282.

The Firewood Company will have a large stand on the field near the members' marquee.

Due to popular demand, we have had to increase the size of the **Cooke & Arkwright Food Hall**, but even so, it has filled up very quickly this year.

This is always a very popular marquee, with locally-produced meats, cakes, wines and many other delicacies on sale.

If your forte is making cake, knitting or painting, there are competitions in the **HSBC home produce marquee** for you. Contact Janet Lewis on 01443 225202 to make an entry.

The **craft fair** is full of home produced, unusual, and interesting things to take your fancy – including wooden toys, knitted garments, clocks, maps and ceramic tiles.

The **shopping mall** is also packed with home accessories, cards, books and many other tempting items.

The **dog show** is going from strength-to-strength, with many entries in its KC registered classes.

It is quite a spectacle to see all the different breeds of dog – all pampered and turned out beautifully.

We also invite everyone to bring their dogs onto the show field, but we do ask that they are kept on leads – and fouling must be cleared.

We also ask that the dogs are not taken into the livestock area.

We have invited the **beekeepers** to come and enlighten us about the very important role the bee has in sustaining our environment.

They will be in the countryside area of the show field, together with the Ramblers and Coed Cymru, among many others.

We hope to have the **road train** on track again this year to ferry people around the field...But this, of course, is up to the weather – which has been so unkind to us over the last couple of years.

There is a **fairground,** plus **archery** and **laser clay shooting**, together with the new **petwise zoo** offering '*I'm a challenger, get me out of here*' competitions, plus the chance of holding snakes and spiders!

We are very grateful to the **Vale Council** for supporting the event again this year.

The council are bringing a large marquee, featuring many of its departments, but also bringing lots of children's fun and entertainment.

Members of the Metrix team at the Defence Technical College project, St Athan, will be in the council tent and will be happy to provide information and answer questions.

The council are supporting the buses to and from the event again this year. Information on the bus timetable can be obtained by ringing **EST Buses Ltd, 01446 773333**.

Our main events in the show ring are the Grand Parade of prize-winning animals at 3pm, followed by the Glamorgan Hunt galloping around the arena.

At 4.15pm, **Katy Cropper** will present her dogs, ducks and geese display. We have been very lucky to book Katy, as she is so busy travelling the country competing in sheepdog trials.

The **Cardiff Blues** will then take to the field for a 20-minute rugby display featuring players and juniors, together with the Blues' mascot Bruiser.

At 5.30pm, we can look forward to the **Hunt Scurry** with teams from Llangeinor, Pentyrch, Ystrad and Glamorgan Hunts competing for the £100 first prize, sponsored by **Frank Sutton**.

With a **family ticket at £20** (to include two adults and two children) a full day's entertainment is provided and it promises to be a wonderful day out in the countryside.

For further information, visit www.valeofglamorganshow.co.uk email vale.show@btinternet.com or ring 01446 710099.

NICOLA GIBSON
(General Secretary)

Katy Cropper, shepherdess with a difference!

Katy Cropper at home in the Lake District.

Katy Cropper, a headmaster's daughter from north Wales, was persuaded to take up a career in art and completed a foundation course in York.

In 1991, Katy started training sheepdogs and shepherding. In 1998, she set up her own training business for farmers in Wensleydale, north Yorkshire and has now expanded it to cover training for sheepdog handlers.

Katy is the only woman to have won the BBC-2 competition 'One Man and his Dog'. She has worked all her adult life as a shepherdess, mostly in the Yorkshire Dales, but has now moved to the Lake District to continue her work.

Don't miss Katy in the main ring at 4.15pm on show day – for a shepherding display with a difference.

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Special Seven-Page Rural Profile

VALE OF GLAMORGAN AGRICULTURAL SHOW

Wednesday 19th August - FONMON CASTLE PARK

MEMORIES OF A RESCUE MISSION!

by **John Arnott**, last year's show president

HAVING been involved in the Vale Show since I was a young boy at the tender age of six, when it was held on the Bear Field in Cowbridge, I can honestly say that I have experienced all conditions in the preparations for the show itself.

The show has changed so much since those early days – it is very much larger, more involved, and definitely more regulated!

We never thought that the weather could conspire so much against us, as in the rain of the last two years.

However, I can remember one incident in particular...the year that David Thomas, of Pentre Meurig, was president, in 1979.

Held in Penllyn Castle grounds, I can clearly remember, 24 hours before the show started, the devastating effect of the gale – which was instrumental in not only blowing away every tent, and anything that was possible to move, but had previously caused such tragedy as the Fastnet Race.

By 2pm on the Tuesday, the day before, a decision was made to carry on with the show, for the winds had dropped and left most of the tentage decorating the trees around Penllyn Castle!

So, with the unbelievable enthusiasm of the show committee, and its ever-present helpers, work started to put the show back on the road.

Main ring activities were the first to be approved, with the hiring of a secretary's office; the home produce went into the late Peter Llewellyn's potato shed, subject of course, to the ladies sweeping it out!

The dog show was moved to one of the Penllyn Estates' buildings, in the village of Penllyn – and new road signs erected accordingly; trade stands being positioned, being careful to avoid the metal tent pegs where the tents had been!

Everybody got to bed tired, but looking forward with some pride to the morning.

By 8am on the show morning, exhibitors were arriving, the tentage contractors were busy erecting tents for judges and stewards, and the unbelievable enthusiasm to make a success out of the previous day's devastating disaster, came through with flying colours.

We had our show – we had a beautiful day – and it was difficult to believe that in the previous 24 hours such doubts could have occurred.

Welsh lamb (and beef) has the taste of success in Europe...

THE Welsh red meat sector is shining a ray of sunlight through the current doom and gloom of the financial meltdown.

"We have had significant success over the past year in the export market," said Rees Roberts, chairman of Hybu Cig Cymru – Meat Promotion Wales on the opening day of the Royal Welsh Show.

"Sales of Welsh lamb, in particular, are booming overseas.

"The value of Welsh lamb and beef exports in 2008 was £108 million. That's a lot of money in anybody's language.

"The strength of the Euro against the pound has obviously had a positive impact on our overseas sales drives, but more than that is the knowledge that we do produce meat that is not only of the highest quality, but is also environmentally-friendly.

"It's been this way for generations, and is the secret of our success. It's one of our major selling points, which explains why Welsh lamb is such a sought-after product across Europe and beyond.

"France and Italy are two of our major export markets. Both countries recognise the quality of our produce, particularly since both Welsh lamb and beef carry the coveted PGI quality mark."

Mr Roberts added that in 2008, more than £66 million of Welsh lamb and £2.5 million of Welsh beef was exported to France, and almost £6 million of lamb and £3 million of beef went to Italy.

Handmade crafts for unusual gifts

A VERY good craft marquee has been organised by Mrs Ann Arnott for the Vale Show this year.

Mrs Arnott is insistent that the exhibits for sale in her marquee are all handmade by those exhibiting; therefore, she achieves a truly traditional craft tent of a very high standard.

Those exhibiting this year include sellers of mohair jackets, miniature garden pictures, hand-painted maps and fine art, wedding accessories, candles, soaps, sewing craft and clocks.

The marquee is well worth a visit to purchase unusual gifts and decorations.

FOR PICTURES AND REPORTS FROM THE VALE SHOW, LOOK OUT FOR NEXT WEEK'S GLAMORGAN GEM - AND YOU CAN NOW FIND US ONLINE AS WELL!

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Special Seven-Page Rural Profile

VALE OF GLAMORGAN AGRICULTURAL SHOW

Wednesday 19th August - FONMON CASTLE PARK

Come see life in a beehive!

AT the Vale of Glamorgan Show, the Swansea and District Beekeepers' Society will be staging their fantastic 'Bee Tent'.

Members of the public (*age no limit!*) can get dressed up in a professional bee suit and see a hive of honey bees being opened inside a bee-proof tent.

As long as the weather is warm and not too windy, you will have the chance to see the queen bee, hold a 'frame' of bees, and learn about the fascinating life of these valuable little creatures.

Beekeepers will be on hand to answer all your questions – or at least try to.

At our last outing , a nine-year-old who had visited the bees commented that it's "an excellent way to get children learning about bees, and a good way to show how a beehive works".

Why not come and see for yourselves?

'We have to make sure they behave themselves'

Hebe, Grace and Mae Thomas with their show entries.

ABOUT three weeks before the show, we choose calves to take and then we have to teach them to lead.

At first, they don't like having a halter on their heads and go a bit mad, but after a couple of days they get used to it.

We practise leading them for about an hour a day up to the show. They enjoy it because we always give them a bit of extra food as a treat, if they are well behaved.

At lambing, the pet lambs' mother died so we reared them on bottles. They are very friendly, but still we have to teach them to lead.

We just hope they behave on show day (*especially Mae, our little sister, who is also sometimes naughty*)!

HEBE THOMAS (Aged 9)

Horticultural exhibits will encourage new gardeners to grow...

THE wartime trend for growing vegetables has now become the theme of today.

As an example of what can be achieved, the exhibits at the Vale of Glamorgan Show Horticultural Section should give encouragement to all.

The fact that there are classes for novices gives new vegetable gardeners a chance to exhibit their efforts of growing their own and gain encouragement from those with greater experience.

In addition, Mr David Butt, a professional gardener and lecturer, will be available to offer practical advice to all who may have problems in growing both vegetables and flowers – or simply need advice to start growing their own.

Entries can be made in the Horticultural Section by telephoning Mrs Maureen Griffin on 01446 711282.

TERRY GRIFFIN

Farmers face a dilemma over methane emissions

FARMERS have been told to get smart and find new ways of tackling the problem of methane gas emission from their herds.

The CLA president Henry Aubrey Fletcher said recently that "smart action is needed to fulfil the demands of climate change reduction on our farms, and protect our cherished landscape."

However, he said it wasn't practical to further reduce livestock numbers to cut methane emissions.

He said: "We have to be smart about cutting back on methane without reducing livestock numbers.

" There is a legal requirement for all greenhouse gasses to be reduced by 80 per cent by 2050, and we produce seven per cent in farming, of which only one per cent is carbon dioxide-based.

"We produce much more methane and nitrous oxide, and methane is 20 times more polluting than carbon-dioxide, but we can't grow crops without nitrogen and you can't have the landscape without livestock.

"There has been a reduction in livestock numbers, and there is a real danger of land abandonment if stock numbers are reduced too far."

He said that farmers have to be smart.

"There are technical solutions in terms of greater efficiency, such as improving the dry cow period in the dairy sector.

"There is also a lot of progress in terms of reducing methane through diet changes and improved breeding.

"Wales is rightly proud of its fantastic landscape that plays host to thousands of tourists every year.

"The loss of grazing livestock would lead to the loss of much of this landscape.

"That would be disastrous for the people of Wales and the rural economy," Mr Fletcher emphasised.

SHOWTIME! As competitors line up their entries for the Vale Show judges today, they can rest assured that The GEM will be there to record the day in full for next week's issue!

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Special Seven-Page Rural Profile

VALE OF GLAMORGAN AGRICULTURAL SHOW

Wednesday 19th August - FONMON CASTLE PARK

Showjumping spectacle is bigger and better!

THIS year's showjumping at the Vale Show promises to be a larger spectacle than ever before – thanks to marvellous support from all of the sponsors.

The total prize money that competitors will jump for this year is more than £1,300. The standard will be high and well worth watching. We kick off at 8.45am with a class for novice horses. The highlight of the day will be 1.30-metre open with a first prize of £150.

Competitors from far and wide will fight it out to take the championship, with the bonus of qualifying for The Royal Bath and West Show.

Later on in the afternoon, children and their ponies will be showing everyone how it should be done.

It is enjoyable for the whole family and well worth sitting by the side of the showjumping ring.

LOUISE EDWARDS

IF YOU'RE A DOG OWNER, THIS IS THE PLACE TO BE!

ANOTHER year has passed and the Vale of Glamorgan Show is almost here again.

Unfortunately, the weather last year was not kind to us, but all the dog show exhibitors, being the stoic people that they are, enjoyed themselves.

I hope that the weather will be more accommodating this year!

The venue is superb, with some of the best wet-weather accommodation available at any agricultural show in Wales.

Entries for the dog show are coming thick and fast and, I hope, will at least match – if not exceed – those of last year.

This is the place to be seen with your dog in south-east Wales!

The Kennel Club has recognised the high profile of the show and has made it the only show in Wales to have the honour of hosting The Kennel Club's Junior Warrant competition qualifying heat – so all you junior warrant winners, please enter!

Pedigree dogs in general seem to have been the subject of adverse media coverage recently, so may I take this opportunity to extol the benefits of owning a pedigree dog and the pleasure and reward that brings to both owner and the dog.

Dog ownership in the UK is part of our heritage and long may it continue.

The dog show is an integral part of the agricultural show, so please, if you visit the show, also visit us in the dog section.

I look forward to meeting you all and hope you bring with you the sunshine that we have all been waiting for!

PETER PASK
(Secretary, dog section, (Vale of Glamorgan Show)

RIGHT: Dog show competitors in 2008.

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The Vale of Glamorgan Agricultural Show 2009

The Mayor of The Vale of Glamorgan Council, Councillor Emlyn Williams, would like to wish everyone involved with The Vale of Glamorgan Agricultural Show a happy and successful event.

Hoffai Maer Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, y Cynghorydd Emlyn Williams, Dymuno pob llwyddiant i bawb a fydd yn helpu gyda'r sioe Amaethyddol Bro Morganwg.

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VALE OF GLAMORGAN AGRICULTURAL SHOW

Wednesday 19th August - FONMON CASTLE PARK

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THE home produce, floral, crafts and children's competitions in the HSBC marquee will, once again, have on display a wonderful array of homemade produce.

They include jams, chutneys and an appetising section of cookery with many varied recipes, including bacon and onion scones and paradise cake.

Contact the secretary for a schedule to try these fantastic recipes.

There will be all kinds of flower arrangements. Why not enter an exhibit in 'Leaves and Berries'?

The art and craft sections show an excellent display of talent by people living around us in the Vale.

The children's section is always very popular. The schools entering the handwriting this year are Llancarfan and Holton Road, Barry.

The Chairman's Cup this year is a selection of five items of cookery suitable for afternoon tea. Judging takes place at 9am and the doors open to the public at 12.30pm. The show president, Mrs Mary Thomas, will be in the marquee at 5pm to present the prizewinners with their cups.

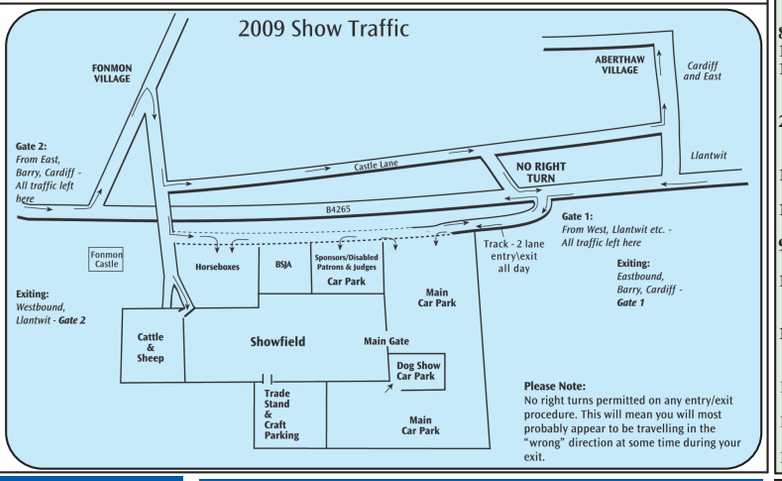
Schedules are available from the secretary. Telephone 01443 225202. Entries will still be accepted.

We look forward to your visit to our marquee.

JANET LEWIS (Secretary, home produce)

Mrs Betty Thomas receiving the 2008 home produce trophy from president John Arnott.

LEFT: Home produce stewards – Jill Rosser, June Studley, and Kay Gay.



2009 TIME TABLE GUIDE

FIRST RING

8.30am Judging of Working Hunter Ponies over 143cm, 66; followed by Judging of Working Hunter Ponies over 133cm, 65; Judging of Working Hunter Ponies under 133cm, 64; followed by Championship
10.00am Mountain & Moorland Lead Rein, 72; followed by Ridden Mountain & Moorland, 73; Ridden Mountain & Moorland, 74; followed by Championship.
11.30am Mountain & Moorland Working Hunter, 75
12.30pm Nursery Stakes, 63; followed by Cradle Stakes, 67 followed by Mini Championship
1.30pm Working Hunter, 56

SECOND RING

8.30am Best Race to Riding Horse Class 57
9.00am Open Riding Horse Class 58
9.30am Ridden Hunter 51,52,53,54; followed by Championship.
12.00pm Local Hunter, 55
12.45pm Side Saddle, 59
1.30pm Cobs, 60
2.00pm In Hand - Skewbald/Piebald combined class 76
3.00pm Grand Parade of Prize Winning Animals
Prize Money will be withheld if Prize Winners do not parade. No prize money will be handed out until after the Grand Parade
3.50pm Parade of the Glamorgan Foxhounds
4.15pm KATY CROPPER DOG & DUCKS DISPLAY
5.00pm Rugby Display
5.30pm Hunt Scurry

THIRD RING

8.30am Judging of Welsh Ponies Section A, 79-84
10.30am Judging of Welsh Ponies Section B, 85-89
12.30pm Judging of Champion Exhibits Sections A, B, C, D.
1.30pm Judging of Leading Rein Class 61; followed by Judging of 1st Ridden Class 62; followed by Mini Championship.

FOURTH RING

8.30am Judging of Welsh Ponies Section C, 90-94
10.30am Judging of Section D, 95-99
12.30pm Show Hunter Ponies (over 143cm), 71; followed by 70, 69, 68; followed by Show Hunter Ponies Championship
2.45pm Skewbald/Piebald class 77 followed by 78; followed by Skewbald/Piebald Championship.

CATTLE RING

10.00 am Judging Commences.

SHEEP RING

10.00 am Judging Commences.

BSJA RING

9.00 am Classes commence in Schedule order.

HORTICULTURAL MARQUEE

10.00 am Judging Commences. Exhibit Section closed to Public during judging.

HSBC HOME PRODUCE MARQUEE

12.30 pm HSBC Home Produce Section Open to Public.

TRADE STAND AVENUES

11.00 am Judging Commences of Trade Stands.

DOG SHOW RINGS

11.00 am Judging Commences.

CRAFT FAIR

10.00 am Open to Public.

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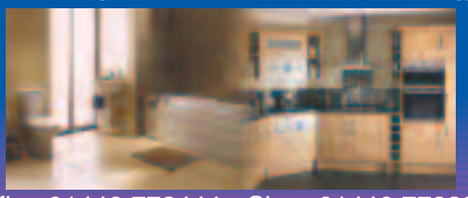

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VALE OF GLAMORGAN AGRICULTURAL SHOW

Wednesday 19th August - FONMON CASTLE PARK

New-look agricultural marquee

Learning to milk the wooden cow at the 2008 show.

IN the 'Farming in the Vale' marquee, the Glamorgan branch of the Women's Food and Farming Union will be sharing their first hand knowledge of food, farming and the countryside.

The farming in the classroom programme aims to inform young consumers about the production of British food and farming.

To this end, cows and chickens have been taken to local schools to educate youngsters about the origins of the food they eat. Please visit this marquee at the Vale Show if you have concerns or questions about food production – there will be '*ask the farmer*' opportunities throughout the day.

Newly-hatched chicks, young calves and lambs will be featured in the marquee.

You can learn about the grain story, or milk the very popular wooden cow.

A special feature this year will be the tractor kindly loaned by Glamorgan Iron Horse Society.

There will be British cheese to sample, too!

HELEN THOMAS

SUN, SAWDUST AND LIVELY CHARACTERS – IRRESISTIBLE!

THIS year's show marks 20 years in which I have been involved as an organiser, and it is my 10th as show director.

The position of show director is one that I religiously try to relinquish each year, but unfortunately for me, there never seems to be a queue of people wanting to take over.

I frequently ask myself why I carry on, and what are the 'drivers' that stop me from saying enough is enough at the AGM each year, and I suppose the answers lie in a number of areas: Firstly, there are challenges, and every year a different one comes forward.

Weather is always a big challenge, and while none of us has the power to influence it, overcoming it to stage a show is my biggest headache.

The deluge of rain we have experienced over the last two years has meant that sawdust and woodchip has been our great saviour; but in extremely hot years, we have to worry about increased fire risk, animal shading and wasps!

Weather problems, coupled with animal health restrictions in recent years, and all the paperwork associated with moving animals, have been the bane of our lives in recent years.

I sincerely hope that we don't have to import any woodchip onto the site for this year's show!

Secondly, I derive a great deal of satisfaction from maintaining the tradition and future success of the Vale of Glamorgan Show, and being able to work with a fantastic committee of volunteers, also liaising with the external organisations of the local ATC, Scouts and Red Cross etc, all of whom play a vital role in making the show happen.

All of the committee know exactly what needs to be done, and simply as show director I have to nudge them now and again to make sure it's done on time!

On reflection over the last 20 years, I think the main reason for my involvement is the fact that the show lets me meet some of life's real characters, whether they be committee members, exhibitors, trade stand proprietors or fraudsters!

We are fortunate that this year, Katy Cropper returns to the Vale Show and if you have never seen her before, her main ring attraction is well worth watching, as Katy truly is a character!

I have, of course, had the pleasure over the years of trying to 'direct' Mr Trevor Llewellyn, and for those of you that know him, then need I say more?

I once was called to intervene in a stand-up row involving a mobile caterer who decided that the propshaft on his van had snapped in the middle of the main aisle and he couldn't move to his allocated space.

On this occasion, the softly-spoken John Arnott was not speaking so softly, and his normally distinguished eyebrows had turned to 'horns'. At 5.30pm, after a day's trading, the propshaft amazingly repaired itself and off he drove!

Another dubious gentleman once turned up on crutches, claiming to represent a well-known charity.

My suspicions were confirmed later the same day, when I saw him kicking a ball about with a child on the showfield – needless to say he left a bit quick with his crutches a lot shorter than when he arrived!

Finally, each show arrives and some of our usual characters who are always around the showfield are sadly no longer with us.

Mr John Sedgebeer of Llysworney, passed away recently. While John was always Riverlea Tractors' 'Guardian Angel' at the show, he was always around for a few days sharing a joke and willing to lend us a tool or gadget that made our lives easier.

As show organisers, our thoughts are with John's family at this sad time, but he will always be remembered as a real character.

It was only John who could attend his own 'wake' two weeks before his passing away, and bequeath his geese to the village of Llysworney.

Characters like him are sorely missed.

DAVID HARRIS
Show director

David Harris.

Blues scrum down at the Vale Show

CARDIFF BLUES are gearing up for the start of the season at the brand new Cardiff City Stadium, but first they're getting out on the road to see their fans.

This year at the Vale of Glamorgan Show, Blues development officers will be running tag rugby sessions for any children who would like to take part in the sports area behind the Blues stand. There the Blues will be running their Big Blue Art Project, the competition for junior fans to design a new supporters' flag for the new stadium.

At 5pm in the main ring, some lucky children will put on a rugby display – some of the Cardiff Blues players will be special guests and mascot Bruiser will also be in attendance!

For more information on Cardiff Blues fixtures at the new stadium, visit ***www.cardiffblues.com***

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT, 1990

NOTICE is hereby given that application has been made to the Council for planning permission for the undermentioned developments:

Development in Conservation Areas

Application No: 2009/00796/FUL
Proposal: Alterations and extensions to dwelling and garage
Location: Redesdale, 5, Constitution Hill, Cowbridge
Conservation Area: Cowbridge with Llanblethian

Application No: 2009/00797/FUL
Proposal: 1st floor rear and side extension addition of veranda to side and loft conversion
Location: 1, College Street, Llantwit Major
Conservation Area: Llantwit Major

Listed Building Consent

Application No: 2009/00735/LBC
Proposal: Undertake works to conserve and allow use to be made for quiet contemplation of the building and grounds of the former Church of St Brise, including works of maintenance and conservation to the churchyard walls, gates and paths.
Location: Former Church of St. Brise, Eglwys Brewis Road, St. Athan
Listed Building: Grade II

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 21 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below, or via the Council's Online Applications Register at vog.planning-register.co.uk.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER, 1995
Application(s) which might affect a Public Right of Way

Application No: 2009/00698/FUL
Proposal: Demolition of northern stone boundary wall, creation of new highway access into rebuilt and relocated stone boundary wall and creation of carparking hardstanding.
Location: Great House, (Ty Mawr), A48, Bonvilston

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 14 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below, or via the Council's Online Applications Register at vog.planning-register.co.uk.

Dated: 13th August, 2009

Rob Thomas
Head of Planning and Transportation

The Vale of Glamorgan Council,
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DC Plumbing
• NO call out charge
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Wanted

SCRAP CARS
TOP PRICES PAID
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CASH in your GOLD
£5 per gram - 9 carat
£10 per gram - 18 carat
Police checked buyer
Will visit by appointment only
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Wanted

GOLD WANTED £6 a gram paid for 18ct gold. All hallmark gold wanted. Scrap gold, damaged rings, pendants etc. Send all gold by special delivery. (This covers sender for up to £500) Send to:
Samson's Treasure House
PO BOX 81, Llantwit Major, Vale of Glamorgan CF719BR
01446 796100 or call in at Gift Gallery, Commercial St, Llantwit Major, 01446 795454.

Guaranted: BEST CASH PRICES given for ALL METALS
Copper - Brass - Lead - Alloy - Steel etc.
PLUS: All VEHICLES - Cars, Vans, Lorries damaged, broken, MOT failures, write-offs or unwanted etc. Visit or ring anytime
Open 7 days a week, 'til 10pm.
FRAZER METALS, COLLECTION AVAILABLE
3 Viaduct Road, No2 Dock, BARRY CF3 4JB
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Bonny Tiler
Wall & Floor Tiling Specialists
Full Bathroom and Wetroom installation
Professional, Friendly & Reliable Service
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PTS Certified

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Up to £80 paid on collection, for scrap, MOT failures, and tax expired vehicles. Also body shells and scrap metals collected. No wheels, no problem.
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07971 648596

Situations Vacant

VALE of GLAMORGAN
BRO MORGANNWG

Lifelong Learning
Dysgu Gydol Oes

Library Assistant (Dinas Powys Library)#*

Up to £14,587 per annum, pro rata plus appropriate enhancements for hours worked on Saturday.
20 hours a week normally worked over 4 days.
This will include regular Saturday and evening work.
Ref: Y-TR-LB048

Children and Young People Services
Gwasanaethau Plant a Phobl Ifanc

Flying Start Crèche Organiser#*

Up to £16,663 per annum, pro rata
25 hours per week i.e. five hours per day.
Term time only plus 3 weeks in the Summer holidays
Temporary (funding up to March 2011)
Re-advertisement (previous applicants need not re-apply)
Ref: V/CF/PDT82

For further information and an application form contact the Council by visiting www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk or telephone Contact OneVale on 01446 700111 between 8am-6pm.

Closing date: 27 August 2009.

Subject to # Job Evaluation and *CRB Disclosure.

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The Vale of Glamorgan Council is an equal opportunities employer.

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New 'green' EU laws require millions of Energy Assessments to be carried out by newly trained Assessors.

CASH IN on this environmental opportunity by training now for an exciting career as a Commercial Energy Assessor in an industry that is thriving even in the recession. No experience necessary and train around your current commitments.

2.5 MILLION commercial properties and homes are estimated to be sold or let this year and must by law be visited by an Assessor - next year 500,000 more with air-conditioning must have Energy Assessments.

QUALIFY at our nationwide state-of-the-art training centres approved by the Government-appointed Awarding Body for the Built Environment and go on to gain even more income earning opportunities such as becoming a Flood and Fire Risk Assessor, Insulation Surveyor, Energy Auditor etc.

RECEIVE subsidised training if you opt to be available to work for our Energy Assessor Panel OR work for other assessment providers OR start your own energy consultancy.

EARNINGS on qualifying from £50 to £1,500 per Assessment.

FIND OUT MORE - ring up to 7pm today for an interview.

ref: HGL33T

0117 927 8700

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Saturday and Sunday £8 per hour.
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cowbridge-today.co.uk
llantwit-major-today.co.uk
porthcawl-today.co.uk
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Property

SHOP TO LET
PENNY LANE COWBRIDGE
630 sq ft, A2 & A3 use. Plus 3 phase.
Contact
S Andrews & Son
01446 774712

To let
West Vale, St. Athan
2 Bedroom House
Large kitchen/diner, enclosed rear garden, GSH, DG. Totally redecorated throughout, new laminate floor in kitchen, new carpets lounge, stairs, landing.
£450 per month
Bonds & Refs required
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Central Barry
C/H, D/G, New kitchen, Bathroom & flooring
Immaculate condition
£500 Bond
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Tel: 01446 743706
07885 537087

Room to let or Bed & Breakfast
Cowbridge
£80 per week
References required & deposit.
Tel: 01446 774491

Birthdays

JUSTIN LEES
August 18th
Happy 40th Birthday
to a wonderful son.
Lots of love
Mum and dad
x x x

JUSTIN LEES
August 18th
Happy 40th Birthday
to a special brother, brother-in-law and uncle – Lots of love, Robert, Claire and Georgia
x x x

HUW THOMAS
14th August 2009
Congratulations on your
60th Birthday
Love always,
Narina
x x x x

Laura Jaroszynski
Happy 18th Birthday
Lots of love,
Mum, Alex &
Gareth.
XXXX

18th August 2009
HAPPY 5th BIRTHDAY
MEGAN

Lots & lots of love DADDY xxx

CARLY GATES
Happy 21st Birthday
16 August
All our love
Mum, Chris,
Nannie and all
the family xxx
PS Have a wicked party on Saturday

Articles For Sale

ADVERTISE HERE for up to 4 weeks for 50p a word plus VAT. To take advantage of this offer simply either send in your description along with a cheque for the appropriate amount made payable to "The Glamorgan Gem" at The Gem, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or telephone us with your wording by 12 noon Tuesday. All major credit cards accepted. Tel 01446 774484. Advert must contain a residential land line telephone number. You may alter your advert as items are sold. **Sorry no refunds are given.**

TWO 2 SEATER SOFAS and 1 chair, cream chintz, loose covers, as new, spare set loose covers unused, £250. Tel: 01446 719885. **(33)**

GOODMANS 21" TV As new flatscreen, Sky box needed for digital reception. £35 ono. Tel: 01446 772841. **(33)**

EXERCISE BIKE A 'Polo Kettler'. First £85 secures. Tel: 01446 772427. **(33)**

3 MOBILITY SCOOTERS 1 @ £200; 1 @ £550 and 1 @ £750. Tel: 07886 378436. **(33)**

BUGGY Power Kaddy Discovery £285 ono. Tel: 01446 781255. **(33)**

BRITAX ultra travel system pram with accessories £80; 2 sturdy highchairs £25 each; pine cot bed with new safety mattress £75; 2 wrought iron ceiling lights £25. All excellent condition. Tel: 01446 747864 **(33)**

SLUMBERLAND Jewel Deluxe divan bed 6ft x 4ft 6in including 4 drawers. As new £180 ono. Tel: 01656 880679. **(32)**

POUND COIN electricity meter £25. Tel: 01446 792182 **(32)**

CONSERVATORY furniture sofa and 2 chairs. Seat pads need re-covering £50. Tel: 01446 794620 **(32)**

STRAIGHT STAIRLIFT, bath lift, 4-wheel walker with seat. Open of offers. Tel: 01446 794733 **(32)**

DYNAMICS exercise bike VGC £30. Tel: 01446 403897 **(32)**

INDESIT washer dryer VGC £120. Tel: 01446 772086 or 07711 315830 **(32)**

TWO CHOCOLATE Italian leather 2 seater sofas with a solid oak frame in immaculate condition, £200 each ono. Tel: 07855 704284. **(31)**

MASKREYS bedroom drawer units, headboard, chest £35 each. Office table £25. Ikea cabinets £15 each. Tel: 01446 760576. **(30)**

TITAN OIL TANK 2,500 litres, plastic £70 ono. Tel: 01446 794803. **(30)**

SHOP RIDER New scooter £500. Two seater couch, good condition leather £100. New mobile flush toilet £80. Bath master (new) £100. Wheelie walker (new) £80. Walker on wheels, good condition £50. Tel: 01656 890489. **(30)**

BATHMASTER SONARIS Bath lift, almost new £100. Yamaha electronic organ, A-55N/B/35N, £20 ono. Buyer to collect. Tel: 01446 775401. **(30)**

MOBILITY SHOPPER Four wheels, folds up, fitting car boot £350 ono. Tel: 01656 659935. **(30)**

WHITE FIRE SURROUND £50. Tel: 01446 742560. **(30)**

PRIORY OAK Welsh dresser £200 ono. Brown leather three piece suite £200 ono. Priory oak extendable table & 5 chairs £100. Tel: 01656 658600. **(30)**

HOTPOINT dishwasher, white, good condition, £75. Tel 01446 719163.**(30)**

MASKRAYS circular glass table, chrome base, seats 4 - £85. 01446 773505.**(30)**

The Glamorgan GEM
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From **£84.00**
Departs Sept to Dec 2009 & Jan, Feb 2010

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Thank You

Thank You

I would like to thank the people of Cowbridge, Strawberry Fields and Dr Stuart for their help and the kindness shown to me after I fell in Cowbridge on the 31st July.

Many thanks,
Kathleen Gregory

Family Notices

DRUMMOND
Alistair (Ali)

Suddenly at home on August 1, 2009, aged 36 years.

Devoted son of Avril and the late Tony and loving brother to James and Julian. Will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

The funeral service will be held at The Holy Cross Church, Cowbridge on Friday August 14 at 12.15pm, followed by cremation at The Wenallt Chapel, Thornhill Crematorium at 2pm.

Immediate family flowers only. Donations in lieu, if desired, to M.I.N.D. Donations and all enquiries to Green Willow Funerals, 33 St Isan Road, Heath, Cardiff CF14 4LU. Telephone: (029) 2075 5555.

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Over 15 years experience.
Sympathetic handling of deceased estates, used by estate agents and solicitors.
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Angharad Risby
17 August 1988
TODAY IS YOUR SPECIAL DAY, 21.
We wish we could all hug you.
One day we will.
All our love,
Mum, Rebekah and James.
XXXX

See this week's MOTORS FOR SALE on Page 12

Tuition

COMPUTER TUITION WANTED
Disabled pensioner in St Athan needs help to use PC/internet
1 or 2 hours per week
07778593122

Public Notices

Gareth Jones are now in receipt of an offer for the sum of £85,000 for **7 Ty Levant Rhodfa'r Gwagenni, Barry, CF63 4AY.**
Anyone wishing to place an offer on the property should contact Gareth Jones, 85 High Street, Barry CF62 7DX - 01446 744812 before exchange of contracts.

Storage

SECURE STORAGE
50'x9' £120pcm
20'x80' £250pcm
at Lower Greenway Farm, Bonvilston
Tel: 01446 781255

Lost & Found

FOUND
Item belonging to Catherine Morris, DOB 07/12/37.
Please contact 01446 748861 (after 6pm)

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154-799 Fiesta 1.3 90-97	21.00
185-339 Corsa 1.2 93-00	21.85
278-419 Clio 1.2/1.4 90-98	29.30

CAT CONVERTERS — TO FIT bosal

098-007 Prog 1.8i/Scorp 1.1 96-04	73.58
098-341 Escort 1.6/1.8 95-97	74.58
098-340 Mogano 1.4/1.6 96-	72.25

BATTERIES — FROM ONLY £34.95 — 3 YEAR WARRANTY (Example: UK 063)

PLEASE PHONE IF YOUR PART OR TYRE SIZE IS NOT LISTED.

GOODYEAR SPECIALS — 195/65R15 Eagle RST 5 £53.95 — 205/55R16 Eagle RST 5 £65.95 — GOODYEAR

STANDARD TYRES — FROM £26.24

Bridgestone	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4	Avon	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4		Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4
155/70R13 Bridgestone B250	£40.37	£78	£150	155/70R13 Avon CR322	£34.48	£65	£125	155/70R13 Hero	£26.24	£50	£95
165/70R13 Bridgestone B250	£45.83	£87	£170	165/70R13 Avon CR322	£36.61	£68	£130	165/70R13 Hero	£27.71	£52	£100
175/70R14 Bridgestone B250	£57.79	£110	£210	175/70R14 Avon CR322	£45.37	£85	£160	175/70R14 Hero	£30.68	£58	£110
175/65R14 Bridgestone B250	£47.35	£90	£170	175/65R14 Avon CR322	£40.10	£75	£145	175/65R14 Federal	£32.34	£62	£120

PERFORMANCE TYRES — FROM £32.39

Bridgestone	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4	Avon	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4		Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4
185/60R14 Bridgestone ER300	£55.66	£105	£200	185/60R14 Avon ZV3	£45.87	£87	£170	185/60R14 Hero	£32.34	£62	£120
185/65R14 Bridgestone B250	£63.83	£120	£230	185/65R14 Avon ZV3	£50.51	£95	£185	185/65R14 Hero	£33.21	£63	£120
185/65R15 Bridgestone ER300	£73.84	£140	£270	185/65R15 Avon ZV3	£54.84	£105	£200	185/65R15 Hero	£36.65	£69	£132
195/65R15 Bridgestone B250	£66.28	£125	£240	195/65R15 Avon ZV3	£52.83	£99	£190	195/65R15 Hero	£37.81	£71	£137

HIGH PERFORMANCE TYRES — FROM £35.82

Bridgestone	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4	Avon	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4		Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4
195/50R15 Bridgestone ER300	£51.85	£99	£190	195/50R15 Avon ZV3	£45.83	£85	£160	195/50R15 Federal	£35.82	£68	£130
195/60R15 Bridgestone ER300	£68.71	£130	£250	195/60R15 Avon ZV3	£58.66	£112	£220	195/60R15 Federal	£40.38	£78	£150
195/65R15 Bridgestone ER300	£61.37	£115	£220	195/65R15 Avon ZV3	£51.74	£97	£195	195/65R15 Federal	£41.58	£79	£150
205/55R16 Bridgestone ER300	£69.59	£135	£260	205/55R16 Avon ZV3	£62.66	£120	£235	205/55R16 Federal	£49.94	£95	£180

ULTRA HIGH PERFORMANCE TYRES — FROM £45.49

Bridgestone	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4	Avon	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4		Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4
205/50R16 Bridgestone ER300	£99.55	£190	£370	205/50R16 Avon ZV5	£78.40	£149	£290	205/50R16 Hero	£45.69	£86	£165
205/55R16 Bridgestone ER300	£72.00	£137	£265	205/55R16 Avon ZV5	£66.30	£128	£250	205/55R16 Hero	£47.63	£90	£170
225/45R17 Bridgestone RE050	£102.96	£195	£380	225/45R17 XL Avon ZV5	£85.94	£165	£320	225/45R17 XL Hero	£49.06	£95	£180
225/40R18 XL Br'stone RE050	£125.67	£245	£475	225/40R18 XL Avon ZV5	£103.62	£199	£390	225/40R18 Hero	£58.70	£112	£215

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Barry CF6 8QW.
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ETB

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INSIGNIA 2.0 CDTi 160 SE • Plus Pack — 58 — ONLY £17695

GREAT OFFER! — VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 WITH VXR PACK — 58 — • in White • 17" Alloys — JUST £10999

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GREAT OFFER! — VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.9 CDTi 150 SRi — 58 — • X/P Pack • Black Sapphire — JUST £12999

58 Plate CORSAS FROM £6485

09 VAUXHALL TIGRA 1.4 AIR — DELIVERY MILES ONLY — GREAT OFFER!! — CHOICE OF COLOURS! — ONLY £10999

QUALITY USED VEHICLES AT GIFT PRICES!

07	Corsa 1.2 Club 3dr	£6999
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56	Astra Twin Top 1.6 Sport	£9999
08	Zafira 1.6 Breeze Plus	£10999
58	Astra 1.8 SRi 3dr Sport Hatch X/P pack, Glacier White	£12999
08	Astra 1.9 CDTi 150 3dr	£12999
08	Vectra 1.9 CDTi 150 Elite Estate Nav, Auto	£12999

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Finance example: Cost price £7999. Deposit £3.999. Balance £4,000. Total Interest £1,698.20. 60 monthly repayments of £89.97. (Document and purchase fees apply). Total amount payable £9,697.20. Subject to status and terms of agreement. Written quotations are available on request.
All illustrated deals are non part exchange. * These finance offers are only available on FRF finance. † Amount of fuel given free this weekend is £20 total with each offer.Exchange vehicles must have an MOT certificate valid for a minimum of three months. Pictures for illustration purposes only.

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0909	**Chrylser** Grand Voyager 25 Anniversary Edition 2.8 CRD AUTO Twin rear DCD, Electric side end and rear doors Stow'n Go seat, My Gig SatNav, U Connect Bluetooth, in Silver, under 3,000 miles	£35995	£24995	£8000
0909	**Dodge** Journey 2.0 CRD AUTO SXT My Gig SatNav, Rear DVDs, U Connect Bluetooth, 7-seater in Silver	£23285	£18995	£4290
0909	**Jeep** 2.0 CRD LTD Sound & Nav Package in Black	£20495	£16495	£4000
0909	**Jeep** Grand Cherokee 3.0 Overland, Entertainment & Family pack, in Grey	£37265	£27995	£9270
0909	**Chrysler** 300 SRT 3.0 CRD Auto in Silver	£32895	£24995	£7900

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06	**JEEP** GRAND CHEROKEE 3.0 CRD LIMITED AUTO IN SILVER	£15995

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0757	New Agila	Choice from £7495
0909	Corsa 1.2 Active 5dr	Choice £8995
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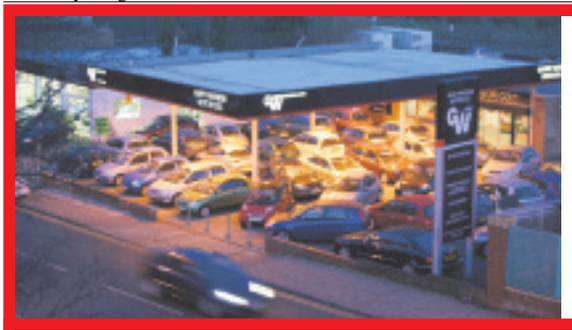

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09	**MERCEDES E320 CDi Sport Auto.** In met black with black leather, delivery mileage, UK supplied, only	**£29,995**
Y	**PORSCHE 911 Triptonic S.** In met. blue with grey leather trim, 71,000 miles with climate, sat nav etc	**£18,995**
56	**LEXUS iS 250 SEL Auto.** In met. red with cream leather, 17,000 miles, 1 owner	**REDUCED BY £1000 TO £16,995**
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03	**AUDI TT 225.** In black with black leather trim, 63,000 miles	**£10,495**
06	**MINI 1.6 Convertible.** In chilli red, 27,000 miles, a/c, elec roof, cd, alloys	**£9,995**
54	**BMW 530 SE Automatic** In met silver with full black leather trim, full specification executive saloon at	**£9,995**
04	**TOYOTA RAV4 XT3 D4D 5-dr.** Silver, 53,000 miles, side steps etc	**£8,995**
52	**BMW 325 Ci Sport Automatic.** In met. blue with beige leather, 75,000 miles	**£8,495**
V	**MERCEDES SLK 230 Auto** In silver with black leather, 60,000 miles, stylish steel roof convertible	**£7,695**
54	**BMW 316 ES Compact.** In black, 61,000 miles, very nice example at	**£6,995**
03	**TOYOTA Celica 1.8 VVTi T Sport.** In smoke silver, 74,000 miles, 1 owner, upgraded alloys	**£6,995**
02	**BMW 330 Sport.** In silver with black leather trim, 64,000 miles, superb value at	**£6,995**
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02	**PEUGEOT 307 SW 2.0 HDi SE 7 Seater.** In met crystal green, 54,000 miles, full panaramic roof	**£3,995**
05	**NISSAN Almera Tino 1.8 S.** In black, 62,000 miles, a/c, cd etc	**£3,695**
54	**DAEWOO Kallos 1.2 Extra Cool 5-dr.** In red, 17,000 miles, a/c, cd	**£3,495**
54	**ROVER 45 1.6 Club SE** In met. green with beige trim, 57,000 miles, a/c, cd	**£3,495**
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52	**VAUXHALL Vectra 2.2 LS 5-dr.** In silver, 39,000 miles, family hatch	**£3,495**
52	**VW Polo 1.2 S 3-Dr.** In electric blue, 59,000 miles with CD, air con, etc.	**£3,495**
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54	**DAEWOO Matiz 1.0 SE+.** In mat turquoise blue, low mileage local car at.	**£3,295**
51	**PEUGEOT 307 1.4 Style 3-dr.** Met blue, 25,000 miles, 2 owners, superb example	**£3,295**
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03	**FORD Ka 1.3i.** In Blue, 30,000 miles, local car at	**REDUCED BY £300 TO £2,695**
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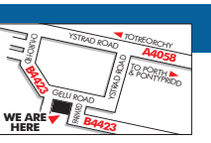

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04 **04 MINI 1.6 Cooper Pepper 3-dr Hatchback.** In chilli red with half leather interior, rear spoiler, alloy wheels, air con, only 50,170 miles **£7,495**

03 **03 MINI 1.4 TD One Salt Pack.** In Indi Blue with beige and panther black full leather interior, automatic climate control, heated seats, electronic sunroof, only 79,370 miles **£7,495**

02 **02 MINI One Salt 1.6 3-dr Hatchback.** In yellow, black interior, body coloured roof, colour coded bumpers, aloys, immobiliser, only 43,130 miles **£5,995**

T **99 BMW Z3 1.9 2-dr convertible.** In green, green leather interior, a/c, electric roof, 17" alloys, wind deflector, only 49,993 miles **£5,995**

L **93 AUSTIN Mini 1.3 Sprite 2-dr Saloon Automatic.** In night fire red with grey interior, all original specification, only 47,215 miles **£2,995**

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05 **55 VW Beetle 2.0 2-dr Cabriolet.** In reflex silver with black leather interior, heated seats, air con, cd, alloy wheels, only 25,010 miles **£9,995**

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05 **55 VOLVO S40 2.0 Diesel SE** in Amethyst with Ivory Leather interior, cd, alloys, cruise control, electric sunroof, electric seats, only 34,255 miles **£9,995**

05 **05 MAZDA 3 2.0 Sport 5-Dr Hatchback.** In sunlight silver with ebony black interior, colour coded bumpers, automatic air con, alloy wheels, CD, only 19,400 miles **£7,995**

05 **05 JAGUAR X-Type 2.0 V6 Classic 4-dr Saloon.** In pacific blue, champagne interior, cd, colour coded bumpers, a/c, reverse park control, only 39,180 miles **£7,495**

04 **54 TOYOTA Celica 1.8 VVTi Premium Coupe.** In crystal silver with Montreal black leather interior, climate control, alloy wheels, immobiliser, deadlocks, alarm, CD, only 27,953 miles **£8,995**

04 **04 Volvo S40 2.0 D SE 4-dr Saloon.** Silver, off black leather interior, cd, climate, cruise, colour coded bumpers, winter pack, only 47,790 miles **£7,495**

04 **54 PEUGEOT 206 1.6 HDi 110bhp GTi 3-dr Hatchback.** In Sahara yellow with half anthracite leather/suede interior, digital air con, multi CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 22,755 miles **£6,995**

03 **03 AUDI TT 1.8 T Quattro 225bhp 3-dr Coupé** In Mauritius Blue with grey leather interior, heated seats, automatic climate control, multi CD, colour coded bumpers, only 32,170 miles **£12,495**

02 **52 AUDI A4 SE 2.0 Petrol 4-dr Saloon Automatic.** In Crystal Blue with phoenix cloth interior, parking sensors on front and rear, air con, CD, alloy wheels, electric windows, only 55,560 miles **£5,995**

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08 **57 FORD Ka 1.3 Zetec Climate 3-dr Hatchback.** In apple green with Cascade indigo interior, climate control, alloy wheels, CD, body coloured bumpers, heated front screen, only 3,873 miles **£5,995**

07 **07 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2i 16v SXi 3-dr hatchback** in black sapphire with black interior, air con, alloy wheels, cdm colour coded bumpers, only 19,615 miles **£7,495**

07 **07 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Extreme 3-dr Hatchback.** In metallic black with dark interior, alloy wheels, CD, body coloured bumpers, front electric windows, only 19,005 miles **£6,495**

07 **07 FIAT Grande Punto 1.2 Active 5-dr Hatchback.** In chemical gray with drop blue black interior, central locking, CD, immobiliser, body coloured bumpers, only 22,120 miles **£5,795**

06 **56 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Zetec Climate 3-dr Hatchback** in tonic blue with tungsten/denim interior, air con, alloy wheels, quick clear screen, cd, front fogs, only 24,250 miles **£5,995**

06 **06 PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Verve 3-dr Hatchback.** In onyx black with madison grey interior, air con, alloy wheels, CD, low insurance, only 14,545 miles **£5,995**

06 **06 RENAULT Clio 1.4 16v Dynamique 3-dr Hatchback.** In nautical blue with jacquard black interior, front fogs, alloy wheels, CD, only 35,870 miles **£5,995**

06 **56 PEUGEOT 107 1.0 12v Urban 3-dr Hatchback.** In raven black with black matrix interior, electric windows, CD, colour coded bumpers, only 16,465 miles, £35 a year tax **£5,995**

05 **55 PEUGEOT 107 1.0 12v Urban 3-dr Hatchback** in laser red with matrix black interior cd, e/w, c/l, immobiliser, only 28,990 miles. £35 per year road tax **£4,995**

04 **04 FIAT Punto 1.2 8v Active 5-Dr Hatchback.** In crystal metallic with grey tek interior, immobiliser, electric front windows, colour coded bumpers, only 10,170 miles **£3,795**

03 **03 FORD Ka 1.3 Luxury 3-Dr Hatchback.** In metallic black with light Cyprus leather interior, electric windows, quick clear front screen, alloy wheels, CD, air con, only 48,741 miles **£3,495**

02 **02 RENAULT Clio 1.4 16v Privilege 5-dr Hatchback.** In Nordic green with vertigo grey interior, air con, sunroof, 5 belted seats, body coloured bumpers, power steering, only 38,940 miles. **£3,495**

FAMILY SELECTION

06 **06 PEUGEOT 307 1.6 16VSE 5-Dr Hatchback.** In hurricane grey with Ikho black interior, front fog lights, multi CD, air con, rear parking sensors, only 40,018 miles **£6,995**

04 **04 FORD Mondeo 1.8 LX 5-dr Hatchback.** Stardust silver, majestic ebony interior, cruise control, heated front screen, cd, only 45,345 miles **£3,995**

04 **04 FORD Mondeo 1.8 Mistrial 5-dr.** In Tonic Blue with majestic ebony upholstery, air con, central locking, CD, alloy wheels, only 61,165 miles **£3,995**

02 **52 CITROEN C3 1.4i LX 5-dr Hatchback.** In topaz metallic, grey arcus interior, e/w, steering wheels mounted audio controls, immobiliser, only 62,265 miles **£3,395**

01 **Y LANDROVER Freelander 1.8 GS 3-dr.** In blenheim silver, smoke stone interior, a/c, alloys, immobiliser, alarm, only 54,880 miles **£3,495**

05 **55 BMW 1 Series 2.0 TD 118d Sport 5-dr Hatchback** in sapphire black moire anthracite interior, cd, alloy wheels, a/c, only 39,160 miles **£10,995**

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04 **04 Volvo S40 2.0 D SE 4-dr Saloon.** Silver, off black leather interior, cd, climate, cruise, colour coded bumpers, winter pack, only 47,790 miles **£7,495**

06 **06 PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Verve 3-dr Hatchback.** In onyx black with madison grey interior, air con, alloy wheels, CD, low insurance, only 14,545 miles **£5,995**

06 **06 PEUGEOT 307 1.6 16VSE 5-Dr Hatchback.** In hurricane grey with Ikho black interior, front fog lights, multi CD, air con, rear parking sensors, only 40,018 miles **£6,995**

02 **02 MINI One Salt 1.6 3-dr Hatchback.** In yellow, black interior, body coloured roof, colour coded bumpers, aloys, immobiliser, only 43,130 miles. **£5,995**

03 **03 MINI 1.4 TD One Salt Pack.** In Indi Blue with beige and panther black full leather interior, automatic climate control, heated seats, electronic sunroof, only 79,370 miles. . **£7,495**

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53 **VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.9 GT TDi (Diesel) 5-dr.** Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, cd, 67k **£6295**
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GEM sport

BARRY YMCA: YOUNG GYMNASTS ON FORM AT CHAMPIONSHIPS

ABOVE:
YMCA gymnasts picked up a host of medals at the national agility championships.

BARRY YMCA gymnasts competed at the recent Welsh Agility Championships where they had representatives in all three competitive levels.

During the event, each gymnast had to perform three set routines consisting of eight skills per routine.

In the level three event, the club were represented in the under-10 age category by Ellie Peterson, Alana Stokes, Ellice Stockford and Nia Davies.

Together, they took the team title, with individual success for Nia, who claimed the overall gold. Alana was placed second and Ellice claimed the bronze medal.

Their clubmate, Caitlin Allin, experienced similar success in the under-14 age category, claiming the overall first place. Caitlin's training partner, Emma Worrall, also performed well, claiming overall silver in the over-14 age group.

The gymnasts' winning ways continued in the level two event with the under-10 team of Catrin Long, Tia Dewitt, Tia Ali and Freya Parker claiming the bronze medal in the team event.

Their training partners, Chloe Sullivan, Megan Hopkins and Seren Mirza Davies, also delivered some impressive performances in the under-10 age group.

In the under-12s, Catrin Megan Davies, Megan Brown, Nia Fenn and Chelsea Slack worked excellently as a team to claim the team gold. Catrin Megan Davies also triumphed in the individual event, claiming first place while Megan Brown claimed overall bronze.

Ellie-Rose Jennings and Megan Gardiner represented the club in the under-14 event, and they did so with impressive style, as did Megan Davies and Bethany Hawkins in the over-14s.

Bethany had a particularly good day, claiming the overall silver medal.

In the level one under-10 age group, Barry were represented by four eight-year-old gymnasts in their first Welsh competition. Despite their young age, Elisha Watkins, Megan Sully, Ffion Jackson and Sophie Birkin demonstrated some impressive routines to place fourth in the team event.

Congratulations to gymnasts and coaches who had a great time, and thank you to the parents who supported the gymnasts throughout the event.

KD

FOR MORE BARRY SPORT, INCLUDING HOW BARRY ATHLETIC BOWLS CLUB FARED IN THEIR LATEST ENCOUNTER, PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 8.

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NEWS FROM DINAS POWYS FOOTBALL CLUB

Ladies team on lookout for a new football coach

RIGHT:
The Dinas Powys Ladies team.

Dinas Powys Ladies Team are still looking for a new manager for the coming season, following the decision by manager Lee Saunders to step down due to increasing family and work commitments.

After finishing last season joint top of the South Wales Ladies league, Dinas Powys Ladies travelled to Gloucester recently to represent the club in an 18- team tournament.

Dinas managed to record a two-nil victory against the Dinas B team in the quarter-finals, then beat Forest Green Ladies in the semis, before securing the Plate trophy with a hard-fought, but well deserved 1-0 victory against Dursley Town.

Dinas were also awarded the Fair Play Trophy for the conduct of their players throughout the day.

Coach Saunders said "I couldn't have been prouder of what the two Dinas sides achieved today, not only to win but to conduct themselves and win by playing football the correct way.

"They were not only a credit to Dinas Powys Football Club but to the Vale and the South Wales Ladies League that they play in."

Lee has said he will make himself available to assist any new manager in settling in with the team if required.

Tough start for Dinas Powys FC

DINAS POWYS Football Club starts its Welsh League Division One season this Saturday, August 15, with a home game against local rivals Barry Town, kick-off time 2.30pm at The Murch.

This is followed on Wednesday with the visit of Bettws kick-off 6.30pm, and yet another home game against Cardiff Corries on Saturday, August 22, kick-off 2.30pm.

Dinas management team Danny Kinsey and Nathan Nurton remain optimistic about the group of players they have to work with this season.

With changes on the management committee, work is progressing behind the scenes to improve the club both on and off the field.

A full fixture list is on the club website at www.dinaspowisfc.co.uk. **MORLEY WILLIAMS**

AGM decides changes at club

Dinas Powys Football Club's AGM was held recently with club chairman Vince Driscoll stepping down and Gareth Musgrove taking his place.

Gareth managed the under-18 youth side last season and has managed a number of sides over the last 10 years.

He looks forward to taking the club forward with an emphasis on strengthening the infrastructure and facilities at the club, and reinforcing links to the juniors.

Vince Driscoll, who was a founder member of the club in the early seventies, was made a life president of the club and will continue on the club committee.

Dave Jose was elected vice chairman and Nicole Fowler as treasurer, while the position of club secretary remains open, with the club seeking to fill this position.

Jan Cunningham continues in her successful role of commercial manager.

The junior section of the club continues to go from strength to strength under the leadership of chairman Ray Davies,

Brian Lewis continues in his roll of junior secretary while Alan Bagshaw joins as junior treasurer.

Last, but certainly not least, Sue Marks continues in her all-important roll as child welfare officer.

Recently former world 400m indoor champion Jamie Baulch has been taking speed training at Bryn y Don with the senior squad in the run-up to the start of the season.

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